



# Proclamation

Protecting the health of Americans includes providing every citizen with access to safe and effective health care.

Infection prevention and control professionals are devoted to patient and healthcare worker safety and are committed to reducing the risk and occurrence of healthcare-associated infections.

Every year, more than 800 million Americans visit their physicians and more than 33 million are admitted to hospitals, with many undergoing medical procedures that have a risk of infectious complications. Healthcare-associated infections increase mortality and add a significant financial burden to the cost of healthcare in this country.

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), representing more than 11,000 infection prevention and control professionals, sponsors International Infection Prevention Week. This year's theme is "*International Infection Prevention Week: It's In Your Hands.*"

In order to substantially reduce the number of patients in Hawai'i's medical care facilities who are exposed to healthcare-associated infections—such as MRSA, a dangerous, drug-resistant staph germ—state healthcare professionals need ongoing support, education and resources.

**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE**, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 14 to 20, 2007**, as

## **INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK**

in Hawai'i, and call upon all healthcare providers in the many health fields in Hawai'i to observe this week with the appropriate programs and activities and to renew their efforts to prevent healthcare-associated infections.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventh day of October 2007.

Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i