



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, fresh water is the lifeblood of our islands and is our most precious natural resource; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawaiian Islands are some of the most isolated islands on earth and are solely reliant on precipitation to meet drinking water and all other freshwater needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Land and Natural Resources works to protect the precious water resources and forested watersheds across the State of Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Water Code advocates the maximum beneficial use of the waters of the State while protecting public trust uses of water such as traditional and customary Hawaiian rights and stream ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i is facing an uncertain climate future, and the best available information indicates Hawai'i will experience a drier climate that threatens our natural water supplies and existing water infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the current COVID-19 crisis has emphasized the critical need for access to clean fresh water to prevent the spread of disease as well as for first responders and front-line workers to maintain safe and sanitary working conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health works with public water systems to ensure that safe drinking water is delivered reliably to customers and that wastewater is disposed of properly to protect public health and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, 138 regulated public water systems deliver clean and reliable drinking water to nearly 100% of residents, businesses, and industries across the State of Hawai'i amounting to approximately 220 million gallons of water each day;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim October 21, 2021 as

## **“IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the importance of protecting our fresh water and the need for maintaining the critical infrastructure that allows our residents to enjoy reliable and clean water service at the turn of the tap.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-first day of October 2021.

  
DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i