



Proclamation

Presented to the

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary was designated by Congress in 1992, and is co-managed by the State of Hawai'i and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and is the only marine managed area in the nation that is solely devoted to the protection of the humpback whale and the conservation of their habitat; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary raises awareness about the 12,000 North Pacific humpback whales that visit Hawaiian waters to mate, calve, and nurse their young each year; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary reminds us that the humpback whale is Hawai'i's official state mammal, and represents the diversity of ocean life that surrounds the Hawaiian Islands; and humpback whales are majestic cetaceans, known for their haunting songs, and reflect the deep connection the people of Hawai'i share with the ocean; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary educates the public about how humpback whales were hunted to the brink of extinction by whalers of the past, but today, they are a federally-protected species; and


WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary promotes February as "Humpback Whale Awareness Month" around the state, and offers a variety of special events and activities aimed at getting the public involved in the protection of the humpback whale and the marine environment; and

THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim February, 2012 as

"HUMPBACK WHALE AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in demonstrating our commitment to protecting the humpback whale and assuring the conservation of this magnificent mammal.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirtieth of January, 2012.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i