Proclamation

WHEREAS, born on October 2, 1869, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is regarded as one of the most important political and spiritual leaders of his time, an iconic figure of hope and peace who pioneered the concept of satyagraha, resistance to tyranny through peaceful noncooperation; and

WHEREAS, famously known by the honorific Mahatma, meaning “great soul,” he is remembered today for leading India to independence from decades-long British rule through his doctrine of nonviolence; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the United Nations General Assembly created the International Day of Nonviolence, a global observance to promote nonviolence through education and public awareness, held annually on October 2 in honor of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii became the first state to designate October 2 as Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day, a day of official recognition and observance, when Governor David Ige signed Act 005 into law in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Gandhi International Institute for Peace will commemorate International Day of Nonviolence and the 147th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth with a special celebration at Kapiolani Park on October 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the 11th annual event, which features an interfaith discussion for world peace and multicultural dances, honors Mahatma Gandhi’s enduring principles of nonviolence and harmony, while showcasing the spirit of aloha that thrives in our islands; and

WHEREAS, his uncompromising dedication to justice and nonviolence, even in the face of oppression, remains an inspiration for us all,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, do hereby proclaim October 2, 2016, to be

MAHATMA GANDHI DAY

to honor the life and achievements of this champion of freedom, human rights, and social change, and to extend deep appreciation to the Gandhi International Institute for Peace and everyone involved in presenting this special tribute.

Done this 30th day of September, 2016, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

KIRK CALDWELL