

The Senate

RECOGNIZES AND CONGRATULATES
THE GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE
UPON THE 16th ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF MAHATMA GANDHI DAY AND
THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE IN HAWAI'I

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, also known as "Mahatma", was born on October 2, 1869. He became the leader of Indian nationalism in British-ruled India and led India to independence through the pioneering use of nonviolent civil disobedience and passive resistance, inspiring various political leaders and civil rights movements across the world to the present day.

Gandhi is commemorated annually on October 2 with a national holiday in India and with the International Day of Non-Violence worldwide, established by the United Nations General Assembly on June 15, 2007 by the adoption of resolution A/RES/61/271. The resolution reaffirms "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the desire "to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence." The International Day is an occasion to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness."

In Hawai'i, the **GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE** was founded by Raj Kumar, Ph.D., with a mission to provide information, consultation, education, and training to resolve conflict in a non-violent manner. An initial effort to promote public awareness was a request to the Legislature of the State of Hawai'i to commemorate the inspiration, tolerance, and enduring legacy of Mohandas Gandhi on the date of his birth. During the Regular Session of 2015, the 28th Legislature of the State of Hawai'i unanimously adopted Senate Bill 332 proposing to designate October 2 of each year as "Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day" as a day of recognition and observance, but not a state holiday. On April 9, 2015, Governor David Y. Ige signed the bill into law as Act 5 (2015) -- making Hawai'i the first state in the Union to so honor Gandhi.

October 2, 2021 marks the 152nd birthday of Mohandas Gandhi, the 16th annual observation of the International Day of Non-Violence, and the 7th celebration of Mahatma Gandhi Day in Hawai'i. The program is being co-hosted with Still and Moving Center. The theme of the 2021 celebration event is "The human voice can never reach the distance that is covered by the still small voice of conscience." – Mahatma Gandhi

During the Regular Session of 2016, the 28th Legislature of the State of Hawai'i unanimously adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, SD1, HD1 to formally establish a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawai'i of the United States of America and the State of Goa of the Republic of India – further honoring the legacy of Gandhi and promoting international peace and goodwill among our people through travel, culture and the arts, education, and economic relations. After considerable preparations, the formal signing ceremony for the Hawai'i-Goa sister state relation by representatives of the two governments was held in Honolulu on September 28, 2018.

The Senate of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai'i hereby recognizes and congratulates the **GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE** for its leadership in advocating for and achieving the establishment of October 2 as Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day in Hawai'i and the establishment of a sister-state relation between the State of Goa and the State of Hawai'i; acknowledges that it is fitting that persons who embody the *Aloha Spirit* actively serve to champion the cause of non-violence and the establishment of a culture of peace throughout the world; joins in the celebration of the 152nd anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi; and extends its *Aloha* and best wishes for continued success and achievement by the **GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE** in the fulfillment of its mission consistent with honoring the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi.

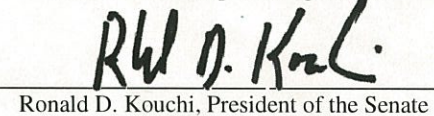


The 31st Legislature
Certificate No. 505

Done this 2nd day of October 2021
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawai'i


Brian T. Taniguchi, Sponsoring Senator


Mike Gabbard, Sponsoring Senator


Ronald D. Kouchi, President of the Senate


Carol Taniguchi, Clerk of the Senate