

The House of Representatives
State of Hawai'i
Hale o nā Luna Naka Āinana

hereby presents this certificate to

THE GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE
UPON THE CELEBRATION OF THE 155th BIRTHDAY OF
MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI
AND THE 19th ANNUAL MAHATMA GANDHI DAY IN HAWAI'I

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Gandhi is commemorated each year 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"; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i, the *GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE* was founded by Dr. Raj Kumar, Ph.D., with a mission to provide information, consultation, education, and training to resolve conflict in a nonviolent 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 Twenty-Eighth 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 Hawai'i Session Laws) -- making Hawai'i the first state in the Union to so honor Gandhi; and

WHEREAS, October 2, 2024 marks the 155th birthday of Mohandas Gandhi, and the *GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE* is celebrating its 19th annual Mahatma Gandhi Day and International Day of Non-Violence; and

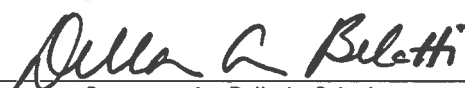
WHEREAS, during the Regular Session of 2016, the Twenty-Eighth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i unanimously adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, SD1, HD1 to formally establish a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawai'i of the United States of America and the State of Goa of the Republic 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; now, therefore,

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second 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 each year 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; joins in the celebration of the 155th anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi; acknowledges that it is fitting that persons who embody the *Aloha Spirit* actively serve to champion the cause of nonviolence and the establishment of a culture of peace throughout the world; 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 32nd Legislature, 2024



Scott K. Saiki, Speaker of the House



Representative Della Au Belatti



Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk