



Proclamation

WHEREAS, yoga means union of the soul with the divine; a gift from ancient Indian philosophers and practitioners; and

WHEREAS, it permeates one's lifestyle, defining restraints in moral living, which brings purity of mind and freedom from anger and jealousy as well as discipline in daily routines and activities; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that there are an estimated 300 million yoga practitioners worldwide and more than 36 million in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i there are approximately 215 yoga studios. Yoga is continually growing in popularity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Raj Kumar founded the non-profit Gandhi International Institute for Peace (GIIP) in 2001 in Honolulu, to promote peace, educate the youth about nonviolence and raise awareness about healthy living in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 21st as International Day of Yoga; and

WHEREAS, GIIP helped introduce legislation in the Hawai'i State Legislature in 2018 to officially recognize June 21st as International Yoga Day in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, this measure passed both chambers and on June 21, 2019, Act 102 was signed into law, making Hawai'i the first state in the nation to recognize International Yoga Day; and


WHEREAS, it is fitting for the Gandhi International Institute for Peace, along with the Consulate General of India, San Francisco, to present the 8th Annual International Yoga Day Celebration, with the theme of *Yoga for Physical, Mental and Spiritual Transformation*;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 21, 2026 to be

"INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join in celebrating yoga to attain a holistic approach to physical, mental and spiritual wellness.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this eighth day of June 2026.


Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i