

The Senate

HONORING AND COMMENDING THE GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE UPON THE CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE AND 15th MAHATMA GANDHI DAY CELEBRATION IN HAWAII

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 through education and public awareness."

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 non-violent manner. An initial effort to promote public awareness was a request to the State Legislature to commemorate the inspiration, tolerance, and enduring legacy of Mohandas Gandhi on the date of his birth.

During the 2015 session, the Legislature 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. On April 9, 2015, Governor David Ige signed the bill into law as Act 5--making Hawai'i the first state in the Union to so honor Gandhi.

October 2, 2020 marks the 151st birthday of Mohandas Gandhi, the annual observation of the International Day of Non-Violence, and the sixth celebration of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day in Hawai'i.

The State Senate honors and commends the **Gandhi International Institute for Peace** upon the celebration of the International Day of Non-Violence and 15th Mahatma Gandhi Day Celebration, hosted by Honolulu's **Still & Moving Center**. We are grateful for your efforts to serve our state by championing the cause of non-violence and reminding us of the true Aloha Spirit. We wish you continued success in the fulfillment of your mission to honor the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, while promoting a culture of peace, tolerance, and understanding for all.




The 30th Legislature
Certificate No. 697

Done this 2nd day of October 2020
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