

Proclamation

The state of Hawai'i is blessed with a beautiful ocean environment that provides many leisure opportunities for our residents and visitors. For countless generations, recreational boating has been a favorite way to relax with family and friends while enjoying our ocean and inland waters.

Even during short expeditions, safe boating practices remain extremely important, as boaters and non-boaters can be affected by accidents on the water. Each year, lives and property are needlessly hurt or lost in boating accidents, many of which result from a lack of basic knowledge of boating and ocean safety.

Numerous government agencies, private groups and community organizations work to educate vessel operators about ocean safety principles by offering safe boating courses and search and rescue demonstrations, as well as conducting safety displays at harbors and boat ramps, yacht clubs and shopping centers. The U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, State Department of Land and Natural Resources and Honolulu Sail and Power Squadron are among groups working together to improve boating safety in our islands.

Each year, *National Safe Boating Week* is observed across the United States and Canada in order to save lives by spreading a message of boating safety and encouraging boater education. Important safe boating practices include:

- Knowing how to properly wear a life jacket;
- Carrying proper safety equipment on board a vessel, including a VHF radio or Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacons;
- Obtaining boating safety education; and
- Having a Vessel Safety Check.

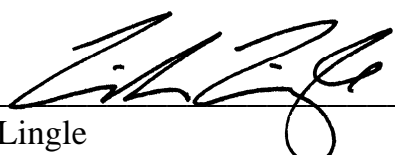
In commemoration of *National Safe Boating Week* in Hawai'i, there will be a Safe Boating Week Boating Fun Fest at the Koko Marina Shopping Center in Hawai'i Kai on May 16, 2009. Other events will take place at yacht clubs and harbors throughout the state.

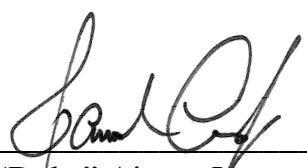
THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and **I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.**, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **May 16 through 22, 2009**, as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

in Hawai'i, and urge all residents and visitors to learn and implement safe boating practices in our waters.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourth day of May 2009.


Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i


James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i