



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in all areas of education, protecting students and staff in any educational institution that receives federal funds; and

WHEREAS, in the 50 years since its passage, Title IX, which was co-authored by Hawai'i's own Congresswoman Patsy Mink, has expanded opportunities for women and girls in sports and in the science, technology, engineering and math fields, and improved protections for pregnant and parenting students; and

WHEREAS, AAUW of Hawai'i is an all-volunteer, statewide chapter of the American Association of University Women, which, in coalition with other gender equity and civil rights organizations, helped to enact invaluable legislation at the federal, state and local levels to strengthen and enforce Title IX, and whose mission is gender equity and equal access in education; and

WHEREAS, the organization will mark the 50th anniversary of Title IX on June 23, 2022, and celebrate its impact and the progress that has been made since its passage, such as Act 110, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2018, the first state Title IX law in the nation to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression in any state educational program or activity, providing important protections for LGBTQ+ students; and

WHEREAS, AAUW of Hawai'i recognizes that, in spite of such Title IX achievements, there is still work to be done, for example, according to the University of Hawai'i 2019 campus climate survey, 12.7 percent of college students experienced sexual harassment and 21.3 percent experienced dating or domestic violence, and according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 17 percent of Hawai'i high school students were bullied on school property and 8.6 percent experienced physical dating violence; and

WHEREAS, nationally, 1.2 million fewer girls play high school sports than boys, and less than two-thirds of Black and Hispanic girls play sports, while more than three-quarters of white girls do, and at the college-level, only 21 percent of engineering majors and 19 percent of computer science majors are women, and the rate of women's enrollment in certain nontraditional careers remains at low levels, with some fields well below 25 percent in women's representation; and

WHEREAS, in an important step to ensure protections for LGBTQ+ students, the U.S. Department of Education announced in 2021 that it would interpret and enforce Title IX to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and on gender identity,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, do hereby proclaim June 23, 2022, to be

TITLE IX DAY

in recognition of the advancements in equal access in education that this landmark legislation has set forth, and the work that remains to be done, and I extend appreciation to AAUW Hawai'i for its work to support these efforts.

Done this 22nd day of June, 2022,
in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Blangiardi".

RICK BLANGIARDI

