

NAT 2016-01 **Declaring June 26 as Equality Day**

Whereas, in 1993 the Hawai'i Supreme Court decided the case know as *Baehr v. Lewin*, and reinstated a claim by three same-sex couples that is was unconstitutional for the State of Hawaii to deny them the freedom to marry which lead to the creation of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in 1996 out of fear that Hawai'i would create a new national standard for Marriage Equality; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i supported the passage of Senate Bill 1 in the second Special Session of 2013, that when it was signed law on November 13, 2013 brought Marriage Equality to the Aloha State, the birthplace of the modern fight for Marriage Equality; and

Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States brought Marriage Equality to the entire United States of America in their landmark decision, *Obergefell v. Hodges*, handed down on June 26, 2015 based on their other landmark Marriage Equality case, *United States v. Windsor*, which was handed down on June 26, 2013; and

Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States June 26 decisions are victories for equal rights for all peoples and cause for recognition and celebration of all human diversity that is the genuine hallmark of a free society; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i requests that the Mayors of all Hawai'i Counties issue a Proclamation to declare June 26, 2016 as Equality Day to recognize and celebrate: Hawai'i as the birthplace of the same-sex marriage movement and human diversity in all its forms as a genuine hallmark of a free society; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls-upon the Governor of the State of Hawai'i to issue a Proclamation to declare June 26, 2016 as Equality Day to recognize and celebrate: Hawai'i as the birthplace of the same-sex marriage movement and human diversity in all its forms as a genuine hallmark of a free society in Hawai'i; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i support the introduction and passage of legislation at County and State levels that would name June 26 as Equality Day to recognize and celebrate: Hawai'i as the birthplace of the same-sex marriage movement and human diversity in all its forms as a genuine hallmark of a free society in perpetuity; and be it further

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, all the Mayors and members of County Councils who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.