

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker*

WHEREAS, the Mālama Honua (Taking Care of the Earth) Worldwide Voyage began in 2013 with a Mālama Hawai'i sail around the Hawaiian archipelago and will continue through 2017. The voyage has covered over 27,000 nautical miles and made stops in 14 countries and 65 ports, weaving a "Lei of Hope" around the world; and

WHEREAS, the voyagers travel in a traditional Polynesian double-hulled canoe named Hōkūle'a, using ancient wayfinding practices and navigating without modern instruments using stars, wind, and waves; and

WHEREAS, Sealaska Corporation donated Alaska Sitka Spruce logs in 1990 to be carved into a sister canoe, Hawai'iloa, establishing rich connections between the First Peoples of Hawaii and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Mālama Honua voyage seeks to engage communities worldwide on sustainable living practices while sharing Polynesian culture, learning from the past and from each other, creating global relationships, inspiring action to discover the wonders of and care for Island Earth; and

WHEREAS, more than 200 volunteer crewmembers, including Alaskans, helped to sail Hōkūle'a on its worldwide voyage, reaching more than 47,000 people in communities across the South Pacific, Tasman Sea, Indian Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea; and

WHEREAS, this voyage was made possible by the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), which was founded in 1973 to perpetuate the art and science of traditional Polynesian voyaging and the spirit of exploration, through experiential educational programs that inspire students and their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Mālama Honua journey underscores and strengthens the bonds between Alaska and Hawaii, which began when both states were admitted into the Union in 1959, and continues today as we collaborate on climate change and strengthen indigenous relationships in the Pacific and worldwide.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, and Byron Mallott, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim June 17, 2017 as:

### *Mālama Honua Day*

in Alaska, in honor of the historic voyage, and encourage Alaskans to reflect on the positive connections we share with our neighbors and friends in Hawaii and around the world.

Dated: June 13, 2017

Handwritten signature of Bill Walker in blue ink.

*Bill Walker, Governor  
who has also authorized the  
seal of the State of Alaska to  
be affixed to this proclamation.*



Handwritten signature of Byron A. Mallott in blue ink.

*Byron Mallott  
Lieutenant Governor*