

COUNTY OF HAWAII

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Hawai'i Island consists of five volcanoes, four of which are classified as active, and all of which deserve our respect and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, Kilauea has been erupting nearly continuously since 1983, with a summit vent opening in Halema'uma'u Crater in 2008, and Mauna Loa likely to erupt again within our lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, volcano awareness has been an essential component of life on our island since the time of the earliest Hawaiian settlements; and

WHEREAS, current island residents and visitors should become familiar with Hawai'i's volcanoes in order to safely observe and enjoy the drama and beauty of volcanic eruptions while also understanding the hazards they pose; and

WHEREAS, the USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (HVO) is responsible for volcanoes in Hawai'i and providing scientific data and eruption updates to State and County Civil Defense agencies, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, HVO will promote the importance of understanding and appreciating Hawaiian volcanoes through a series of events conducted in cooperation with Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Hawai'i County Civil Defense, and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Billy Kenoi, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim January 2010, as

VOLCANO AWARENESS MONTH

for Hawai'i Island, and encourage all residents and visitors to increase their knowledge and awareness of Hawaiian volcanoes and the proper safety measures to follow before, during, and after a volcanic eruption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 4th day of December, 2009, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



Billy Kenoi
MAYOR

