

County of Maui

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the pandemic remains a tough and challenging time for all of us, the County of Maui has been reporting the lowest number of new COVID-19 cases (per 100,000) in the State of Hawai'i, and the State continues to report the lowest number of new COVID-19 cases in the country (per 100,000); and

WHEREAS, from September 2020 through September 2021, 155 businesses in the County filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy, and 60 filed for Chapter 13 reorganization; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui has responded with emergency plans and programs, including *Ho'oulu Maui Nui Business Directory, Kama'aina First, Maui County Virtual Job Fair, and Maui Nui Strong*; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's economy was on a clear path towards recovery until the rapid spread of the Delta variant caused a new spike in COVID -19 cases that has created economic uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, in July 2021, financial ratings companies assigned ratings of "stable outlook" to the County of Maui due to its successful efforts to maintain its financial flexibility; and

WHEREAS, the tourism industry is still the main economic engine for the County of Maui and the State of Hawai'i, but with estimates for actual full recovery of tourism to pre-COVID levels now stretching beyond 2024; and

WHEREAS, in order to help prepare the County of Maui to return to a vibrant economy and re-build long-term growth and stability, we must continue encouraging the people of Maui to become excited about entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurs and their small businesses are the driver of economic vitality across the County of Maui, particularly in rural and underserved communities, accounting for two-thirds of new jobs; and

WHEREAS, the County of Maui continues embracing the entrepreneurial spirit in a culture of innovation to create 21st century jobs, where residents the chance to start and successfully operate their own business; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance opportunities for individuals to start their own ventures, the County of Maui joins the State of Hawaii's *Global Entrepreneurship Week* for the second year to celebrate entrepreneurship and connect participants to potential collaborators, mentors and even investors, thereby introducing them to new possibilities and exciting opportunities; and

WHEREAS, *Global Entrepreneurship Week* provides an opportunity for all the people of the County of Maui to focus on the importance of entrepreneurship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael P. Victorino, Mayor of the County of Maui, join the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, David Y. Ige, in proclaiming November 8 to November 14, 2021 as

Global Entrepreneurship Week

throughout the County of Maui, and ask all residents to join me in this special observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and caused the seal of the County of Maui to be affixed hereto.
DONE at Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i, on this 1st day of November, 2021.

Michael P. Victorino

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
Mayor, County of Maui

