HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 26-67

RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING MARCH 2026 AS "MARCH4WATER MONTH."

WHEREAS, in Hawaiian culture, water, or "wai," is a sacred and cultural resource considered to be the physical embodiment of the Hawaiian god Kāne, representing life, wealth, and divine energy; and

WHEREAS, since ancient times, water has been essential to sustaining life, promoting public health, and ensuring economic prosperity in the State of Hawai'i ("State"); and

WHEREAS, the nation's rapidly aging infrastructure that supports drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems will require an estimated $1.2 trillion in necessary upgrades over the next two decades, underscoring the need for sustained support and investment to protect municipalities, including the City and County of Honolulu ("City"), from structural and environmental stresses; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 2.2 million people across the country lack access to running water and indoor plumbing in their homes, and between 12.1 million and 19.2 million households in the United States currently lack affordable access to water services, imposing a substantial burden on low-income families; and

WHEREAS, the State's approximately 2,600 skilled plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters work tirelessly to maintain and upgrade the infrastructure necessary for clean water and sanitation systems throughout the islands; and

WHEREAS, the month of March provides a unique opportunity to align local efforts with global movements, such as World Plumbing Day on March 11 and World Water Day on March 22, to highlight the sustainable management of freshwater resources worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials ("IAPMO") is the global authority responsible for developing the Uniform Plumbing Code, the basis for safe plumbing systems and standards in the State; and

WHEREAS, the IAPMO, which marks its centennial anniversary in 2026, established March4Water Month in 2023, advocating for secure and sustainable water systems through the development of technical standards and pursuit of supporting policy work; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Rick Blangiardi, in partnership with the IAPMO, the Board of Water Supply, and the Plumbers and Fitters Union, Local 675, issued a proclamation on March 4, 2026, declaring March 2026 as March4Water Month in the City to recognize the importance of water infrastructure and to promote water conservation and sustainability efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the celebration of March4Water Month in partnership with the IAPMO and the Plumbers and Fitters Union, Local 675; and

WHEREAS, March4Water Month is an exceptional platform to raise awareness about water conservation, access to safe drinking water, and the importance of investing in infrastructure throughout the community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it designates March 2026 as "March4Water Month" in the City and County of Honolulu; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council encourages participation in activities and programs that promote awareness, education, and actions prioritizing water as a precious and vital resource for Hawai'i's future; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Managing Director.

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilmembers

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAR 17 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 26-67

Introduced: 03/17/26 By: TOMMY WATERS Committee: COUNCIL (CCL)

Title: DESIGNATING MARCH 2026 AS "MARCH4WATER MONTH".

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

03/17/26	INTRO	Introduced.
03/25/26	CCL	Adopted. 7 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TUPOLA, WATERS 2 ABSENT: TULBA, WEYER

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER