

COUNTY OF HAWAII

Proclamation

WHEREAS, this nation has announced its long-term space policy with NASA as the Journey to Mars, with the search for life as one of its primary motives; and

WHEREAS, space exploration is a multi-disciplinary endeavor which parallels the voyaging tradition of Hawaiians and extends the cultural concept of Aloha 'Āina to lands beyond our islands; and

WHEREAS, Hawai`i Island is noted for having the world's premier test sites which are high-fidelity science analogs to the Moon and Mars because of our volcanic terrain; and

WHEREAS, study of other planets and planetary analogs leads to understanding of our Earth, our islands and our volcanoes. Hawai`i Island has played a pivotal role in the geologic training of Apollo astronauts for the Moon during the 1960's; and

WHEREAS, Hawai`i Island has also played a pivotal role via analog field tests in 2008, 2010, and 2012 in proving the concept of ISRU (In-Situ Resource Utilization) which is the methodology of reuse/recycle enabling current space exploration planning; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai`i and the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) has provided support and expertise for Mars and Moon research via these analog field tests; and

WHEREAS, BASALT (Biologic Analog Science Associated with Lava Terrain) is a NASA research project designed to investigate and correlate biologic habitability with physical and geochemical conditions on Mars using terrestrial analog sites; and

WHEREAS, BASALT also is defining the concepts of operations for future astronaut exploration on the Martian surface with simulations of traverses, sample collection and communications time-delay elements; and

WHEREAS, applied science research efforts on Hawai`i Island furthers global space efforts and inspires our next generation of explorers with local educational opportunities that are truly beyond Earth,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILLY KENOI, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i do hereby proclaim November 7 - 18, 2016, as

NASA BASALT RESEARCH PROJECT WEEKS

in the County of Hawai'i in celebration of mankind's desire to explore and learn about our environment both on and off world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 1st day of November, 2016, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Billy Kenoi'.

Billy Kenoi
MAYOR