

WHEREAS, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes provide mediation services to people with opportunities for successful resolution of their conflicts and gives people a path to find solutions that may not be available in a courtroom or litigious setting; and

WHEREAS, alternative conflict resolution, including mediation, is a process of dispute resolution that offers both short-term and long-term benefits which ultimately promotes harmony and understanding among a diverse, multi-faceted population; and professionals and supporters from both the public and private sectors regularly come together to bring public awareness to ADR and encourage active support of the use of party-driven dispute resolution methods; and

WHEREAS, ADR processes provide an opportunity for parties to save costs, save time, preserve relationships, enhance privacy, and give parties greater control over the process of resolving their dispute; and

WHEREAS, community based mediation and alternative conflict resolution programs have been developed in Hawai'i to fairly and equitably resolve neighborhood and community conflicts, thus strengthening community relationships; and

WHEREAS, Kaua'i Economic Opportunity Incorporated (KEO) is a private non-profit community action agency, incorporated on March 16, 1965 and has celebrated its 50th anniversary of service to Kaua'i residents with mediation being one of more than 20 programs; and

WHEREAS, KEO Mediation Program has been providing mediation services for the Kaua'i community since 1982 and the Fifth District Court since 1997, addressing civil cases without the need for a formal court hearing; and

WHEREAS, KEO Mediation Program and The Mediation Centers of Hawai'i (MCH) will celebrate the Annual Conflict Resolution Day to coincide with International Conflict Resolution Day on October 15, 2015.

WHEREAS, NOW, THEREFORE, I BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR., Mayor, County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2015 to be designated as

