
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BROTHER JOSEPH DUTTON DAY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Ira Barnes Dutton
2 was born on April 27, 1843, in Stowe, Vermont, and spent his
3 formative years in Janesville, Wisconsin. After the Civil War
4 broke out, Ira Barnes Dutton enlisted in the Union Army in
5 September of 1861 as part of Company B of the thirteenth
6 Wisconsin infantry and was discharged in 1866 due to a
7 downsizing of the military after the war. Following the war,
8 Ira Barnes Dutton suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder
9 and other personal problems, leading him on a journey to seek
10 atonement through the Catholic faith and taking on the name of
11 his favorite Saint, Joseph, when he was baptized.

12 The legislature further finds that upon learning about the
13 work of Father Damien on Molokai, Joseph Dutton made his way to
14 Hawaii, arriving at Kalaupapa in July of 1886 to assist Father
15 Damien, who had been diagnosed with leprosy. Joseph Dutton soon
16 became an expert in caring for patients while working alongside
17 Father Damien, who affectionately called him "Brother". After



1 Father Damien's death three years later in 1889, Joseph Dutton
2 managed the Baldwin Home for Boys for leprosy victims and
3 dedicated the remainder of his life to the residents of
4 Kalaupapa until he became ill and was transferred to St. Francis
5 Hospital in Honolulu, where he passed away on March 26, 1931.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish April 27 of each
7 year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day to honor the hard work and
8 dedication of Brother Joseph Dutton in helping residents of
9 Kalaupapa.

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
11 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
12 read as follows:

13 "§8- Brother Joseph Dutton Day. April 27 of each year
14 shall be known and designated as "Brother Joseph Dutton Day";
15 provided that this day is not and shall not be construed to be a
16 state holiday."

17 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2044.



Report Title:

Brother Joseph Dutton Day

Description:

Designates April 27 of each year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day.
Effective 7/1/2044. (HD1)

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