

ACT 7

H.B. NO. 2071

A Bill for an Act Relating to Gold Star Family Day.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a need to honor, support, and cherish the families of the United States armed forces members who have bravely sacrificed their lives for their country.

On June 23, 1936, a joint congressional resolution designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day to honor the mothers of the men and women who have given their lives for their country while serving in the United States armed forces in times of war or conflict. Gold Star Mother's Day has been observed every year since by presidential proclamation. In September 2009, President Barack Obama renamed the last day in September as Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day and included family members as part of the honorees.

A total of seven states, Illinois, North Dakota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, as well as Guam have enacted legislation to recognize Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day.

The purpose of this Act is to establish Gold Star Family Day in Hawaii as a specific day to honor the family members of the men and women who have

given their lives for their country while serving with the United States armed forces in time of war or during a period of hostilities.

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

“§8- Gold Star Family Day. The last Sunday in September shall be known as “Gold Star Family Day”, in recognition of the family members of the men and women who have given their lives for their country while serving with the armed forces of the United States in time of war or during a period of hostilities. This day is not and shall not be construed to be a state holiday.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 7, 2014.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.