



## EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

### NEWS RELEASE

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2006

## **STATEMENTS BY GOVERNOR LINGLE AND LT. GOVERNOR AIONA ON NEW LAW TO BAN SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES**

HONOLULU – Governor Linda Lingle and Lt. Governor James R. “Duke” Aiona, Jr., both former smokers, issued the following statements on a new law (SB3262 SD1 HD1 CD1, SB 3262, Act 295) signed by the Governor today that will prohibit smoking in public places, including bars, restaurants, office buildings, and workplaces.

“It was not long ago when we believed that non-smoking sections in restaurants or on airplanes were sufficient to keep second-hand smoke away from nonsmokers,” said Governor Lingle, who is a board member of the American Legacy Foundation, a national organization dedicated to preventing smoking and tobacco use among teens. “We now have concrete research about the serious dangers of secondhand smoke. We also know that tobacco is a leading cause of preventable death in Hawai`i, therefore, it is critical that we do all we can to protect the health of our residents and visitors by providing public venues that are truly smoke-free. Hawai`i’s new smoke-free law will save lives. At the same time, we will continue to work with our community and health care partners to focus on preventing Hawai`i youth from starting smoking.”

The Lt. Governor quit smoking after his father, a lifelong smoker died from lung cancer. His grandfather, who did not smoke but was exposed to second-hand smoke, also died from lung cancer.

“It took shocking events in my life to understand the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke and what tobacco use was doing to my health as well as the people around me,” said Lt. Governor Aiona. “This new law will help protect the health of our youth and our elderly and everyone in between by minimizing the risks of exposure to second-hand smoke.”

####

For more information, contact:

Lenny Klompus  
Senior Advisor – Communications  
Phone: 586-7708

Russell Pang  
Chief of Media Relations  
Phone: 586-0043