



Governor Linda Lingle

As Hawaii's chief executive from December 2, 2002 to December 6, 2010, Governor Linda Lingle delivered on her commitment to improving the quality of life for all Hawaii's residents, while positioning the 50th state for long-term prosperity.

During her eight years in office, Governor Lingle provided a clear vision for a fundamental transformation of Hawaii's economy through the *Hawaii Innovation Initiative* and the *Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative*, both of which positioned Hawaii as a model for other island territories and nations.

Her administration placed Hawaii in the forefront of renewable energy usage, establishing a community-supported implementation roadmap that will result in 70% of the State's electricity coming from clean energy by the year 2030.

Governor Lingle is committed to improving the quality of education by providing Hawaii's youth with the skills they need to compete and excel in the global economy. Her Administration focused on promoting innovation through science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education for Hawaii's students, implementing hands-on, real world learning through robotics competitions and creativity academies.

During her Administration many state services saw dramatic improvements, including support for persons with mental illness, child welfare services, welfare-to-work programs, Native Hawaiians homestead awards, and modernization of the state's airports, harbors and highways.

Governor Lingle was instrumental in gaining the support of President George W. Bush to designate Papahānaumokuākea (Northwestern Hawaiian Islands) a national monument, which recently was awarded United Nations designation as a World Heritage Site.

Governor Lingle has been proactive in forging links with our Asia-Pacific neighbors, repeatedly visiting China, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, the Philippines and South Korea to form partnerships in education, trade, culture, tourism, clean energy, emergency preparedness, film, digital media, and health services.

As commander-in-chief of the Hawaii National Guard, she visited Hawaii troops in Iraq, Japan, Korea and the Mainland United States, and was nationally recognized for her unwavering support of our military personnel and their families.

Governor Lingle took office on December 2, 2002, committed to bringing about a "New Beginning" for the people of Hawaii by making state government more transparent, accountable



and responsive. Her tremendous success at accomplishing these goals and revitalizing Hawaii led to her re-election for a second four-year term in November 2006 by the largest margin of victory in any gubernatorial race in state history, which included winning all of Hawaii's 51 state house districts.

The sixth elected Governor of Hawaii since statehood, Governor Lingle is the first mayor, first woman and first person of Jewish faith to serve in this capacity. She was also the first Republican to lead the Aloha State in more than 40 years, working effectively with Democrat-controlled Legislatures throughout her eight years in office.

Linda Lingle first served the people of Hawaii in 1980 as a member of the Maui County Council, and went on to complete five, two-year terms, three representing the Island of Molokai. In 1990, she was elected Mayor of Maui County and served two, four-year terms. Under her leadership, the economy of the County significantly outpaced the rest of the State.

Governor Lingle was born on June 4, 1953 and is a native of St. Louis, Missouri. Her family moved to Southern California, where she attended public schools. She relocated to Hawaii in 1975 after graduating with a journalism degree from California State University, Northridge. In 1976, she founded and served as publisher/editor of the Molokai Free Press.