



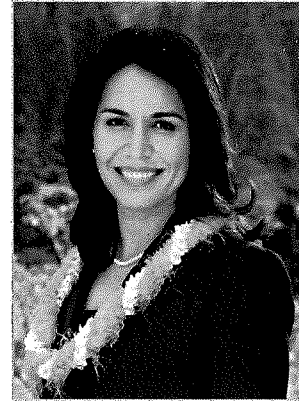
Congress of the United States

A MESSAGE FROM

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TULSI GABBARD

IN RECOGNITION OF THE

**POKAI BAY PROJECT
GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY**



Aloha to all of the Westside residents, community partners, and everyone gathered here today,

Hawai'i faces a tremendous shortage of affordable housing units, making it increasingly difficult for families with limited resources to find a safe place to live, put food on the table, and make basic ends meet. The Pokai Bay Project is a vital opportunity to create affordable housing on the Wai'anae Coast. This land—nestled close to the ocean's calm, cool waters and resting under the Wai'anae Mountain Range—has long been home to a tightknit, resilient community. The Pokai Bay Project will continue to strengthen the Wai'anae community, providing a safe place for the leaders of tomorrow to grow and thrive.

The Self Help Housing Corporation of Hawai'i has worked tirelessly to support our local families, providing the technical assistance needed for people to build a home of their own. Since 1984, SHHCH has helped more than 620 very low and low income families on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and Moloka'i build their own houses. By providing valuable construction skills, financial support, home maintenance skills and more, SHHCH is not only helping to build new affordable housing in Hawai'i, but empowering the next generation.

Mahalo to SHHCH, their staff, and all of the families and people who have helped to make this project a reality. Your efforts and hard work are a perfect example of what can be achieved when we are motivated to serve with aloha. Best wishes for your continued success!

With aloha,

Tulsi Gabbard

*Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard
Serving the People of Hawaii's 2nd District*

Presented on this 20th day of June 2017