



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness and ALS Families Appreciation Month

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive, fatal disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, making even the simplest movements – walking, breathing, speaking, eating, gesturing – eventually impossible; and

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) strikes people regardless of race, age, gender, ethnicity or social status, and has no known cause, means of prevention or cure; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Hawai'i, approximately 28 new cases of ALS are diagnosed annually and 112 people are afflicted with ALS at any one time; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans are approximately twice as likely to develop ALS as those who have not served in the military; and

WHEREAS, our islands communities need to recognize ALS and its resulting effects, in order for those currently affected and those whose futures are overshadowed by the specter of ALS, to receive the understanding, legislative action and support they need; and

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) patients and their families in Hawai'i have repeatedly demonstrated extraordinary resilience, resourcefulness and dignity despite the difficulties of living with ALS;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as

“ALS AWARENESS and ALS FAMILIES APPRECIATION MONTH”

in Hawai'i, and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in educating themselves about ALS, lending their aid to combating the disease, and extending their *aloha* and support to all families living with ALS.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twenty-sixth day of April 2015.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i