

Proclamation in Recognition of

National Reunification Month

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month is celebrated each year in June to recognize parents who have lost and regained custody of their children; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month highlights the accomplishments of families who have reunited safely and successfully, and recognizes the important role that community partners have in providing a comprehensive network of services that support reunification, including mental health and substance abuse services, court system support services and resource family support; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month calls attention to reunification being the preferred outcome for children removed from their homes and placed in foster care; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month highlights the state of Hawai'i's belief that a "team effort" involving family members, child welfare service providers, Family Court, community providers, resource caregivers and the Department of Human Services is essential to successful reunification; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month will be celebrated on June 23, 2016 at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Hale Pono'i; and

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 2016 as

"NATIONAL REUNIFICATION MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the contributions of those working to support children and families, and the efforts of families themselves to work toward and accomplish reunification.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fifteenth day of June 2016.

DAVID Y

Governor, State of Hawai'i

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