

## Proclamation In Recognition of

## **Infant Safe Sleep Month**

**WHEREAS**, Child & Family Service is a non-profit organization established in Hawai'i that is dedicated to strengthening families, fostering the healthy development of children and building supportive multicultural communities across generations; and

**WHEREAS,** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that about 3,500 infants die suddenly and unexpectedly each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) remains the leading cause of death in infants one to twelve months old even while the prevalence of SIDS has decreased by 50% over the last twenty years; and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) and other sleep-related deaths can be reduced by placing infants on their backs in a safety approved crib and within a safe environment; and

WHEREAS, Child & Family Service emphasizes the need for parents, grandparents, relatives, and childcare professionals to be educated in infant sleep safety through programs, such as home visits; and

WHEREAS, Child & Family Service collaborates with the State of Hawai`i in Safe Sleep Hawai`i activities to improve the health and well-being of infants by providing educational materials and supportive services in the communities where they live; and

**WHEREAS**, October has been designated as National SIDS Awareness Month in order to increase public awareness of the high rate of preventable infant deaths through education and programs;

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

## "INFANT SAFE SLEEP MONTH"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing and participating in its observance and keeping informed about how to keep our children safe.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twenty-seventh day of October 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i