



# *Proclamation*

## *In Recognition of*

### **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month reminds the public of the estimated 22,600 people in Hawai'i with developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, an effective way to increase awareness is by participating in community activities with the disabled, learning about disabilities, and acknowledging every individual's contribution to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, people are encouraged to shift their thinking from trying to "fix" a disability and instead, focus on supporting individuals with developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, rather than telling individuals with developmental disabilities what they should do, we should ask them what they would like to do for their community and look for ways to support their efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, as we treat everyone with dignity, respect and kindness, we will continue to spread aloha throughout our communities, schools, workplaces, and houses of worship so that all people are embraced; and

**WHEREAS**, each and every one of us can honor our diversity and contribute to making Hawai'i a better place to live;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2017 as**

### **"DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH"**

and urge all citizens of the Aloha State to recognize the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities, and to engage and encourage them in their endeavors.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this first day of March 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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