



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month

WHEREAS, a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) is a birth defect that occurs during fetal development causing a hole in an infant's diaphragm, allowing organs to migrate through the hole and crowding the abdomen, and ultimately may cause the infant's lungs to be small and underdeveloped; and

WHEREAS, since the year 2000 an estimated 700,000 babies worldwide have been born with CDH; and

WHEREAS, 1,600 newborns are affected by CDH in the United States every year with only about half surviving past infancy; and

WHEREAS, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis but is not as well-known; and

WHEREAS, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications, which can include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with CDH and their families, and will lead to urgently needed research and medical advances;

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

“CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of CDH and to support those children and families whose lives are affected by it.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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