



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Parkinson's Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease and it is expected to affect 1 million people in the United States including 3,000 people in Hawai'i with the number expecting to more than double by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, there are millions of Americans who are caregivers; family and friends greatly impacted by Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 National Parkinson Foundation study estimated that the annual economic burden of Parkinson's disease on patients and families is about \$14.4 billion, of which an estimated \$8.1 billion is attributed to medical expenses and an estimated \$6.3 billion is attributed to indirect costs; and

WHEREAS, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown, and there currently is no objective test or biomarker to diagnose the disease; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; gait and balance difficulty; speech and swallowing disturbances; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families;

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

"PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in supporting increased research, education and services needed to find more effective treatments and provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fifth day of April 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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