



FASD Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) are a group of conditions that can afflict persons who were exposed to alcohol before birth, of which Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is the most recognizable condition along the spectrum; and

WHEREAS, each year, about 40,000 babies in the U.S. are born with the negative effects of prenatal alcohol exposure and 1 in 20 schoolchildren may have FASD; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, among women of childbearing age in Hawai'i, 51.4 percent reported alcohol use and 35 percent reported binge drinking; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent report from the Hawai'i Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, approximately 1,300 women per year who gave birth in Hawai'i reported drinking alcohol in the last trimester of pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, FASD effects are lifelong and the cost of caring for one child with FAS (does not include other FASDs) is estimated at \$2 million over the child's lifetime; and

WHEREAS, prenatal alcohol exposure is the leading cause of birth defects and intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, FASD is 100 percent preventable;

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

"FASD AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and in conjunction with International FASD Awareness Day on September 9th, encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to work together to reduce the occurrence of FASD by raising awareness of the effects of alcohol consumption during pregnancy, improving public health efforts on early identification and intervention for children affected by FASD, and recognizing providers who are transforming the lives of individuals and families affected by FASD in our communities.

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

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i