



Proclamation

Presented to

The Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i is committed to developing and maintaining a highly skilled public workforce with people of diverse abilities who strengthen businesses by driving innovation and increasing competition; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i has a vested interest in increasing acceptance for people living with a disability by providing access, meaningful services, and improved outcomes for all citizens at the state, county, local, and private sector levels; and

WHEREAS, in the 2015 U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, the percentage of working age individuals with a disability living in Hawai'i working full time/full year was 32.4 percent as compared to the percentage of working age individuals living in Hawai'i without a disability working full time/full year was 60.7 percent; and

WHEREAS, in November 2014, Hawai'i was one of 15 states selected to receive technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy to build capacity and develop inter-agency policy for employment for individuals with disabilities through the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program; and

WHEREAS, the Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program resulted in collaborative partnerships among the Department of Education, Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Division, Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Workforce Development Division, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and the University of Hawai'i Center on Disability Studies; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month is "Inclusion Drives Innovation" as declared by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy;

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

"DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and endorse Hawai'i's designation as an Employment First state. Furthermore, we encourage all citizens of the Aloha State to fully participate in the workforce and to bring your individual strengths and talents to augment Hawai'i's business and industry.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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