

ProclamationIn Recognition of

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths; and

WHEREAS, every three minutes someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and every ten minutes someone dies from the disease; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimated that there were 660 new diagnoses and 240 deaths related to colorectal cancer in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the approximate 5-year survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90% but only 10% when diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and

WHEREAS, only 39% of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer does not always cause symptoms but may include blood in stool, recurring stomach pains and unexplained weight loss; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is highly preventable with routine colorectal cancer screenings, beginning at age 50; and

WHEREAS, staying active, maintaining a healthy weight, refraining from smoking, eating less red meat, and consuming less or no alcohol reduces the risk of the disease; and

WHEREAS, public education and awareness are vital to reducing the number of people diagnosed with the disease;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of **Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim the month of March 2018 as

"COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of colorectal cancer, encourage routine screenings, and work toward reducing the number of people who suffer from the disease.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of March 2018.

Governor, State of Hawai'i Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S