

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** National Poison Prevention Week was established by the U.S. Congress in 1961 to raise awareness, reduce unintentional poisonings, and promote poison prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the third full week in March has been designated as National Poison Prevention Week, focusing attention on the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them; and

**WHEREAS,** on average poison centers handle one call every 13 seconds on a possible poisoning, adding up to a total of more than 4 million calls across the United States yearly; and

**WHEREAS,** each year, nearly 7,000 possible poisonings in the State of Hawai'i are reported to the Hawai'i Poison Center with close to half of those calls involving children; and

**WHEREAS**, National Poison Prevention Week reminds us that some of the deadliest and most dangerous items in our homes are hiding under our kitchen sinks, on countertops, in medicine cabinets and laundry rooms; and

**WHEREAS**, education on poison prevention is the best method to ensure the safety of our families and communities; and

**WHEREAS,** a few ways to prevent a poisoning from happening include placing household chemicals out of the reach of children, storing items in their original containers to avoid confusion, and reading product labels including the recommended dosages on all products; and

**WHEREAS,** everyone should take measures to ensure that unintentional poisonings do not occur and take precautions to understand medication safety;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 17 - 23, 2019 as

## "POISON PREVENTION WEEK IN HAWAI'I"

and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to learn more about precautions that they can take to reduce the number of accidental poisonings in Hawai'i.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of March 2019.

JOSHUA B. GREEN

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

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