Proclamation

WHEREAS, necrotizing fasciitis (NF), often referred to as the "flesh eating bug or virus," is a serious bacterial skin infection that spreads quickly and kills the body's soft tissue; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in four people die from NF every year; and

WHEREAS, people with chronic illnesses like cancer, diabetes, and kidney dialysis are at a higher risk of being infected with NF, and approximately one-half of NF cases caused by streptococcal bacteria occur in young and otherwise healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS, NF may occur following surgical procedures or minor injuries to the skin, falls, cuts or tears; and

WHEREAS, NF can be deadly in a very short amount of time, requiring accurate diagnosis and prompt treatment; and

WHEREAS, early signs include flu-like symptoms and redness, swelling and severe pain around the infection site, and more serious symptoms include fever, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle aches and rash; and

WHEREAS, lack of prompt treatment of NF may lead to amputation, blood poisoning, multiple organ failure and death; and

WHEREAS, the bacteria that causes NF can be spread through direct contact with droplets from the nose or throat of infected persons or contact with infected sores on the skin, so practicing good hygiene and proper wound care help to prevent a bacterial skin infection;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and **I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor** of the **State of Hawaiʻi,** do hereby proclaim May 2019 as

"NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawaiʻi, and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in learning more about necrotizing fasciitis and support early diagnosis, proper management and treatment, and research.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawaiʻi, this twenty-fifth day of April 2019.

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JOSHUA B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawaiʻi

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DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawaiʻi