

Proclamation

WHEREAS, scoliosis is the most common deformity of the spine, a condition that causes the spine to abnormally curve sideways; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis has no known cause and strikes without regard to gender, race, age or economic status; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis affects an estimated 7 million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately one out of every six children diagnosed with scoliosis needs active treatment, and in some cases, surgery; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between the ages of ten and fifteen with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis symptoms include crooked shoulders, head tilt, tendency to lean to one side, and uneven rib cage, hips or legs; and

WHEREAS, adult patients may have a variety of symptoms, such as low back pain, stiffness, numbness, cramping, shooting pain in the legs, and fatigue, which can lead to gradual loss of function; and

**WHEREAS**, screening programs allow for early detection and treatment that may alleviate the worst effects of the condition, result in fewer surgeries, and reduce healthcare costs;

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

## **"SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of scoliosis; help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities; and recognize the need for increased research, funding and support.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-first day of May 2019.

JOSHUA**B**. GREEN Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

DAVID Y. IGE Governor, State of Hawai'i