



Proclamation

WHEREAS, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children ages 1 to 14 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i, an average of 50–60 new cases of childhood cancer are diagnosed each year with a survival rate of about 78 percent; and

WHEREAS, as many as 200 children in our islands may be receiving treatment at any given time for a duration of 12 months to 3 years; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer patients are at risk of having chronic health conditions, with one quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening, as a result of their treatment toxicity; and

WHEREAS, approximately one half of childhood cancer families estimate the associated financial stress due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of nonprofit organizations at the local and national level, including the American Childhood Cancer Organization, are helping children with cancer and their families cope through educational, emotional and financial support; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding; and

WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the FDA to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, although survival rates have improved dramatically over the past 20 years, the number of diagnosed cases annually has not declined;

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

“CHILHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in learning more about this disease, recognizing the need for increased funding, and supporting this cause that so deeply impacts families in communities across the country.

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

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i