



Proclamation

WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization, 37.9 million people worldwide are living with HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and 770,000 worldwide died from HIV/AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) as of end of 2018; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 2,400 persons currently living with HIV in Hawai'i and approximately 400 persons living with HIV in Hawai'i are not receiving HIV care; and

WHEREAS, barriers such as stigma, discrimination, homelessness, behavioral health and substance use continue to hinder successful HIV prevention, testing and treatment; and

WHEREAS, the "Hawai'i to Zero" campaign aims to end the HIV epidemic with zero new HIV infections, zero deaths related to HIV, and zero HIV-related stigma; and

WHEREAS, for people who are at high risk of exposure to HIV, the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis medication prevents transmission of the HIV virus if taken consistently; and

WHEREAS, people living with HIV often experience loneliness and isolation, and it is critical that they have access to and receive appropriate HIV medical care and support; and

WHEREAS, while great progress has been made in treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS, and new prevention strategies can prevent new infections, there is still no cure for HIV/AIDS;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2019 as

"WORLD AIDS DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in the fight against HIV/AIDS and Rock the Ribbon Together to show support for people living with HIV and commemorate those who have died from AIDS-related illnesses.

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

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i