



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, almost 22,000 people in Hawai'i have developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, developmental disabilities include autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, epilepsy, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, Tourette syndrome, and other disorders that cause physical, learning, language or behavior impairment; and

**WHEREAS**, all individuals with developmental disabilities need full access to education, employment, housing, transportation and recreational activities; and

**WHEREAS**, all individuals with developmental disabilities should be treated with respect and dignity, and be empowered to live self-determined lives; and

**WHEREAS**, people with developmental disabilities have many skills, talents, and abilities to contribute to our neighborhoods and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the most effective way to increase this awareness is through everyone's active participation in community activities and the openness to learn and acknowledge each individual's contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Hawai'i has a vested interest in increasing the inclusion of people living with a disability by providing access, meaningful services, and improved outcomes for all citizens at the state, county, local, and private sector levels;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim March 2020 as

## **"DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and call upon all citizens, public and private agencies, businesses and schools in the State of Hawai'i to take time to get to know someone with a developmental disability and to engage and encourage them in their endeavors.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this nineteenth day of February 2020.

  
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DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i