

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** since 2005, the Children's Craniofacial Association's nationwide campaign for Craniofacial Acceptance Month brings a broader awareness of the needs and challenges of people affected by craniofacial differences; and

**WHEREAS,** craniofacial disorder refers to deformities that affect the head and facial bones which may be present at birth or result from disease or trauma; and

**WHEREAS,** cleft lip and/or palate, the most common craniofacial disorder, affect over 1,500 children in the United States alone and about 185,000 births worldwide annually; and

**WHEREAS,** due to the complexity of craniofacial disorders, the majority of affected children will often endure up to 30–40 surgeries before they reach adulthood; and

**WHEREAS,** families with a member who has a craniofacial condition often undergo emotional and financial strain due to demands resulting from ongoing and expensive medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS,** organizations such as Children's Craniofacial Association strive to empower and give hope to individuals and families affected by craniofacial differences, while working towards the vision of a world where all people are accepted for who they are and not how they look;

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

## **"CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the challenges and courage of individuals with a craniofacial disorder and support the families and organizations working to bring better understanding and acceptance in our communities.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fourth day of August 2020.

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i