



Proclamation

WHEREAS, gastroschisis is a rare birth defect in which the baby's intestines (and sometimes other visceral organs) are pushed through a hole in the abdominal wall and developed outside of the baby's body; and

WHEREAS, gastroschisis occurs in about one in every 2,000 babies and has seen an increase in recent years; and

WHEREAS, depending on the severity, babies born with gastroschisis may experience a short stay in a neonatal intensive care unit or a lifetime of complications; and

WHEREAS, gastroschisis can be diagnosed during pregnancy, and early detection can assist in safe delivery and surgical intervention after birth; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by gastroschisis often experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

WHEREAS, the causes of gastroschisis remain largely unknown, and more research is needed; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of residents of Hawai'i are among those affected by gastroschisis;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2020 as

"GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness about this birth defect and support and encourage families affected by gastroschisis.

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



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i