

Proclamation

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a widespread and hidden societal problem that affects 4 million women, children, and men in the United States each year, regardless of race, age and income; and

WHEREAS, with as many as one in four women who are victims of domestic violence, the long-term effects are damaging to the health and well-being of victims, families, friends, and communities; and

WHEREAS, affected children are at a greater risk of perpetuating the cycle of violence when they grow up believing that violence and abuse are normal; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) has advocated for victims and survivors of domestic violence for over 35 years in partnership with its members to create a safer and more peaceful state for Hawai'i families; and

WHEREAS, HSCADV is comprised of 12 organizations from all islands that serve over 2,000 victims of domestic violence each year and those organizations include: Catholic Charities Hawai'i, Children and Family Service, Domestic Violence Action Center, Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i, Lōkahi Treatment Centers, Neighborhood Place of Kona, Parents and Children Together, University of Hawai'i PAU Violence, Salvation Army, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney Victim/ Witness Kōkua Services, Women Helping Women, YMCA of Hawai'i Island, and YWCA of Kaua'i; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic stay-at-home orders, which have created new challenges for victims, their families and friends by limiting access to resources and safe spaces, bring into focus the problem of domestic violence in our state; and

WHERAS, HSCADV invites the community to participate in the #NoRoom4Violence campaign and to take a stand against domestic violence;

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

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of this public health issue; build support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims; encourage action from every sector of our community; and recognize the survivors of domestic violence and the advocates who strive to put an end to domestic violence in our communities, state and nation.

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

DAVI

Governor, State of Hawai'i