



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are a group of complex developmental disabilities caused by differences in the brain which present social, communication and behavioral challenges; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 54 babies born in the United States is diagnosed with ASD; and

WHEREAS, ASD is nearly five times more common in boys, and symptoms generally appear within the first two years of life; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of autism include repetitive behaviors, aversion to changes in routines, restricted interests, delayed speech development, and lack of eye contact or verbal responses; and

WHEREAS, early intervention treatment services can improve an autistic child's communication, learning, and social skills; and

WHEREAS, people with ASD have different ways of learning, paying attention, or reacting to things; and

WHEREAS, the learning, thinking, and problem-solving abilities of people with ASD can range from gifted to severely challenged; and

WHEREAS, autism is a lifelong condition where continuous family care and government services for health, education, social and welfare supports are needed;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as

"AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of autism, celebrate each other's differences, promote acceptance and ignite change so that individuals affected by autism are able to achieve the highest quality of life possible.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighteenth day of March 2021.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i