

Proclamation

WHEREAS, infertility is a medical condition that equally affects both men and women of all ages; and

WHEREAS, infertility refers to the difficulty or inability to become pregnant, repeated spontaneous miscarriages, and stillbirths; and

WHEREAS, about 1 in 8 couples in the United States have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, couples struggling with infertility often face lack of emotional support and financial barriers due to cost or lack of insurance coverage for infertility treatments; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ community also faces challenges when building their families; and

WHEREAS, people challenged in their family building journey should have access to family building options which include adoption and medical treatments such as in vitro fertilization; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is one of the 17 states that require insurers to either cover or offer coverage for infertility diagnosis and treatment;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the **State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim April 18–24, 2021 as

"INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of infertility; understand and support infertile couples with hope; and recognize the volunteers, health care professionals and members of the infertility and family building community for their dedication.

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

Governor, State of Hawai'i