



# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, period supplies are a necessary product each month for millions of people across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys and research studies report that one in four people who menstruate struggle to secure enough period supplies to meet their needs each month due to a lack of income; and

**WHEREAS**, period poverty—the lack of access or inability to afford sanitary products and lack of menstrual hygiene education—is a public health issue that can adversely affect the health and well-being of people who menstruate, including students, low-income and homeless women and girls, transgender and nonbinary individuals and incarcerated people; and

**WHEREAS**, national surveys also report that one in five people who menstruate miss work or school due to period poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, period poverty may lead to infections and other health and hygiene complications for people who menstruate when forced to limit the number of changes during a menstrual cycle; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2020 ALICE report by Aloha United Way, 60 percent of Hawai'i's local families struggle to meet basic needs, including period products, due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor** of the **State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim May 24–30, 2021 as

## **“PERIOD POVERTY AWARENESS WEEK”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of period poverty, recognize the importance of ensuring health and hygiene for all people who menstruate, and support community-based efforts for collecting and distributing period products to those struggling with period poverty.

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

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i