

Proclamation

WHEREAS, month of May is National Foster Parent Appreciation Month; and

WHEREAS, the children of Hawai'i are our most precious resource, and every child deserves a safe, loving and stable home in which to grow, learn and play; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii foster parents are caring for and nurturing more than 2,000 children and youth in foster care today; and

WHEREAS, foster parents, while keeping children and youth safe, also play a key role in aiding families with reunification and providing stable resources to help them work through and overcome the hardships they may be experiencing; and

WHEREAS, foster parents provide the love, safety and stability that children need and help them overcome past traumatic experiences so that they can reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, we express our gratitude and respect to the many foster parents, kinship caregivers, family members, volunteers, mentors, child welfare professionals, and other community members throughout the state of Hawai'i who make such a meaningful difference in the lives of our children and youth in foster care;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as

"National Foster Parent Appreciation Month"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing foster parents for opening their hearts and homes to our most vulnerable keiki in Hawai'i.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twelfth day of April 2022.

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i