

Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month is celebrated each year in June to recognize parents who have lost and regained custody of their children; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month highlights the accomplishments of families who have reunited safely and successfully, and recognizes the important role that community partners have in providing a comprehensive network of services that support reunification, including mental health and substance abuse services, court system support services, and resource family support;

WHEREAS, National Reuniification Month calls attention to reunification being the preferred outcome for children removed from their homes and placed in foster care; and

WHEREAS, all children need the care, love, security, and stability of family unity, including parents, siblings, grandparents and other extended family members, to provide a solid foundation for personal growth, development and maturity; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month highlights the State of Hawai'i's belief that a team effort involving family members, child welfare services providers, Family Court, community providers, resource caregivers, the West Hawai'i Child Welfare Services, and the Department of Human Services is essential to successful reunification;

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

"NATIONAL REUNIFICATION MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the contributions of those working to support children and families, and the efforts of families themselves to work towards and accomplish reunification.

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

Governor, State of Hawai'i