



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy announced, "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation," as the theme for National Disability Employment Awareness Month 2022; and

WHEREAS, Employment First is a national systems-change framework centered on the premise that all individuals, including those individuals with the most significant disabilities, are capable of full participation in Competitive Integrated Employment and community life; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2022, House Bill (H.B.) 1787 was signed into law making Hawai'i an "Employment First" state and further encouraging the people of the State of Hawai'i to fully participate in the workforce and bring their individual strengths and talents to augment Hawai'i's businesses and industry; and

WHEREAS, many organizations, agencies, individuals, and businesses make Employment First their mission and guiding principle in building collaborative relationships, cooperative training programs, and increasing the employment of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, persons with disabilities maximize their inclusion and accessibility, independence, and productivity by learning in settings that provide learning systems that advance independent living, enhance employment opportunities, increase productivity, and eliminate barriers to meaningful employment; and

WHEREAS, progress toward a diverse workforce requires both a long-term commitment and active participation of executive leaders throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities and showcase supportive, inclusive employment policies and practices;

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

"DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing that people with disabilities add value and talent to our workplaces and communities, and support the efforts of employers, schools, and other community organizations to advance individuals with disabilities so that they may work to pursue the goals of opportunity, full participation, economic self-sufficiency, and independent living for people with disabilities.

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



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i