



Proclamation
In Recognition of
Children's Dental Health

WHEREAS, guarding the physical and mental health of our *keiki* is critical to the future well-being of our state and development of our nation; and

WHEREAS, an important component of a child's general health is dental health, and learning and maintaining a routine of good oral hygiene is an important step in developing a healthy body; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General in 2000 declared a "silent epidemic" of untreated dental disease in thousands upon thousands of children in twenty-first century America who cannot eat or sleep properly, cannot pay attention in school, and cannot smile because they are suffering from this easily preventable condition; and

WHEREAS, oral disease, the most prevalent chronic disease of childhood, continues to disproportionately affect low-income children; and

WHEREAS, the state recognizes the importance of programs that provide dental services for Hawai'i's *keiki* to make proper dental care and treatment accessible to all; and

WHEREAS, the American Dental Association has declared February as National Children's Dental Health Month; and the dentists of the Hawai'i Dental Association have resolved to participate in free dental care days on each island, wherein they will provide free dental screenings and free oral health kits containing toothbrush, toothpaste and educational materials for thousands of Hawai'i's *keiki*;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim February, 2015 as

"Give Kids a Smile Month"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to make dental health a priority in the lives of our *keiki*.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fourth day of February 2015.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i