



Proclamation
In Recognition of
World Down Syndrome Day

WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Day encourages people around the world to choose their own activities and events to help raise awareness of what Down syndrome is, what it means to have Down syndrome, and how people with Down syndrome play a vital role in our lives and communities; and

WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that is a part of the human condition, universally present across racial, gender and socio-economic lines, and according to the United Nations (UN), affects 1 in 800 births worldwide, causing intellectual disability and associated medical issues; and

WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Day takes place on March 21st of each year because the date "3/21" represents the presence of three copies of chromosome 21, which is unique to people with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, World Down Syndrome Day is observed in more than 60 countries worldwide and promoted by many organizations and communities, including the United Nations and Down Syndrome International, to promote people's awareness and understanding of Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Down Syndrome International will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of **World Down Syndrome Day** by focusing on the role of families and the positive contribution that they can make towards the enjoyment of full and equal rights for people with Down syndrome;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 21, 2015 as

"WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to become part of the global voice that advocates for the rights, inclusion and well-being of people with Down syndrome.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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