



# *Proclamation* *In Recognition of*

## **Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day**

**WHEREAS**, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives to protect our freedom deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, combat operational stress historically has been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of a person's character or ability, and the term Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

**WHEREAS**, post-traumatic stress can occur not only after a traumatic event experienced in combat, but also after rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse, car accident, train wreck, plane crashes, bombing, and natural disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and this stigma discourages those suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, making the condition less stigmatizing and more honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek timely treatment and help without fear of retribution or shame, and can diminish suicide rates; and

**WHEREAS**, all citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve our consideration, those who have received these wounds in service to our nation further deserve our respect and recognition;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 27, 2016, as

## **"POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY"**

in the State of Hawai'i and ask the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in encouraging all public, private, and military service providers to continue educating service members; veterans; families of service members and veterans; victims of abuse, crime and natural disaster; and the general public about the causes, symptoms and treatment of post-traumatic stress injury.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twenty-third day of June 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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