



Proclamation *Presented to* **PATCH**

WHEREAS, PATCH (People Attentive to Children) is an outstanding organization whose employees make a positive difference in many lives and contribute to the health and well-being of our keiki in the State of Hawai'i. Through their steadfast commitment and dedication of time, talent, and resources, they leave a lasting legacy to the community; and

WHEREAS, PATCH was started in Honolulu during the early 1970s, a time when Hawai'i was preceding the nation in its acute need for child care. This need was due largely to a very high cost of living coupled with a dependency on a generally low-paid, service workforce. Child care at the time was characterized by non-profit preschools for 3 to 5 year olds and a grassroots system of family child care providers for infants and toddlers; and

WHEREAS, at that time, a core group made up of home-based providers and early childhood educators came together at Honolulu Community College (HCC) to participate in a new early childhood education program. Public awareness about this new program grew as a result of newspaper articles and soon the HCC offices were inundated by calls from parents looking for quality caregivers for their children; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, in response to the great demand, the group formed a private non-profit organization – PATCH – to act as an advocacy agency to improve the availability and accessibility of quality child care programs in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, PATCH was incorporated as a private non-profit 501(c)3 organization on June 29, 1976 and serves as Hawai'i's statewide child care resource and referral agency. Child care resource and referral (CCR&R) agencies, like PATCH, are located throughout the country. CCR&R services have evolved from grassroots efforts to help parents find child care to well-developed systems that support parents, providers, and local communities in finding, planning for, and providing quality child care. At PATCH, the mission is to support and improve the quality and availability of care for the young people of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, PATCH is the only Hawai'i member of the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRA);

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby recognize June 29, 2016 as

"THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PATCH"

in Hawai'i and hereby congratulate and express our gratitude to PATCH, its president, Cheryl Nishita; its Executive Director, Aaron Kibota; its Board of Directors; and its staff and extend our warmest *aloha* and best wishes to them for success in all future endeavors.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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