



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented to the*

### **Hawai'i State Department of Health – WIC Program**

**WHEREAS**, human milk provides the ideal balance of nutrients for an infant's growth and development and reduces the risk of infectious diseases and childhood obesity; and

**WHEREAS**, when a mother breastfeeds a child, she is taking preventative measures in protecting an infant's health and is providing the best possible foundation for her child's healthy life; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and cooperating State health departments, territories and tribal organizations promote and support exclusive breastfeeding as an optimal method of infant feeding through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and other nutritional assistance programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawai'i State Department of Health WIC program joins professional health organizations and breastfeeding advocates worldwide in celebrating World Breastfeeding Week on August 1-7 of each year to collaboratively raise awareness of the numerous benefits of breastfeeding; and

**WHEREAS**, WIC promotes strategies that protect optimal breastfeeding practices by strengthening individual, family and community support for breastfeeding and encourage increased breastfeeding rates;

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

## **“NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH”**

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in this observance.

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

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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