



Proclamation

Presented to

The Hawai'i COPD Coalition

WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a chronic, systemic disease that includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis and chronic asthma causing serious long-term disability, and is now the third leading killer in the United States and the leading cause of hospital admission and readmission; and

WHEREAS, COPD is the only one of the top ten killers that continues to increase (163% since 1965), with over 15 million adults in the United States diagnosed with the disease and an equal or greater number who are estimated to be undiagnosed, killing 120,000 Americans every year (one death every four minutes); and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i there are over 46,015 adults diagnosed with COPD, generating over \$55 million in charges every year in our hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the National Heart Lung Blood Institute began a "Learn More, Breathe Better" national COPD Awareness Campaign to increase awareness of COPD, strengthen prevention efforts and improve diagnosis and treatment, and encourage testing for COPD which involves a simple, quick and painless breathing test; and

WHEREAS, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is a genetic form of COPD, affecting 4 percent of all cases but is under-diagnosed and under-treated due to lack of awareness, and can be diagnosed with a free, simple fingerstick blood test and can be effectively treated; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i COPD Coalition, Hawai'i Society for Respiratory Care, Hawai'i Thoracic Society and the American Lung Association in Hawai'i all recognize COPD and Alpha-1 as very serious public health concerns, and the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific started a new pulmonary rehabilitation program to help patients with COPD live healthier and more active lives; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i COPD Coalition collaborates with many community organizations and seeks to increase awareness of COPD in Hawai'i by offering resources and providing individualized information about lung health, free monthly support group meetings and an annual free education day; and

WHEREAS, November has been designated as National COPD Month and November 16th has been designated as World COPD Day with supporters wearing orange to recognize these events; and

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2016 as Hawai'i COPD Day and November 2016 as

"COPD & ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in finding out if you or your loved ones are at risk for COPD and Alpha 1, and to get tested and get appropriate treatments, which may include tobacco cessation, education and support, pulmonary rehabilitation and exercise.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this tenth day of November 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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