



# *Proclamation*

## *In Recognition of*

### **National Nurses Week 2017**

**WHEREAS**, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2016 there were nearly 3.6 million registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) in the United States, and they comprise our nation's largest health care profession; and

**WHEREAS**, as of April 2017, there were over 29,000 licensed RNs and LPNs in Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, the demand for nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population and the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, National Nurses Week will be observed May 6 through May 12, 2017, in association with the American Nurses Association, celebrating the ways in which nurses strive to promote safe and high quality patient care and map out ways to improve our health care system; and

**WHEREAS**, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings including the correctional system; and

**WHEREAS**, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in safety and quality of care for patients in the correctional system. More qualified nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in our community and our institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, there are 73 nurses currently employed by the Department of Public Safety, with nine more RN positions needing to be filled; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost effective, safe and quality healthcare services provided by nurses will be an ever more important component of Hawai'i's healthcare delivery system in the future;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim May 12 - 16, 2017 as

## **"NURSES WEEK"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in honoring nurses throughout the country and across the state who provide the highest quality care for all of us.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fifth day of May 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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