



# *Proclamation*

*In Recognition of*

## **Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, all 52 different muscular dystrophies supported by the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) result in progressive muscle weakness, from mild muscle weakness to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including those used for breathing and/or swallowing; and

**Whereas**, thousands of people are affected by muscular dystrophies across the country every year, and more than 500 families in Hawai'i have been touched by the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, muscular dystrophy strikes people regardless of race, sex, age or ethnicity; and

**WHEREAS**, patients often succumb to their illness in early childhood or as young adults depending upon the diagnosis; and

**WHEREAS**, research has recently yielded four new drugs to treat four types of muscular disease, more than in the previous five decades, in the fight against neuromuscular diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, raising public awareness of these diseases will continue to facilitate the discovery of treatments and cures, as well as bring much needed funding for support and services for families affected by muscular dystrophy and neuromuscular diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the Muscular Dystrophy Association provides early diagnosis, specialized care and access to clinical trials at MDA Care Centers in hospitals and health care facilities across the United States and Puerto Rico, serving over 100,000 people with the disease each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month is a special opportunity to educate the public about muscular dystrophy and issues in the muscular dystrophy community;

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

## **"MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in being more aware of muscular dystrophy and to support the continued research necessary to fight all neuromuscular diseases.

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

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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