



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, in 2017 an estimated 10,270 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed among children from infancy to 14 years of age in the United States, and about 1,190 children are expected to die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, on average there are about 50-60 new cases of childhood cancer diagnosed in Hawai'i each year; and

WHEREAS, although pediatric cancer death rates have declined by nearly 70 percent over the past four decades, cancer remains the leading cause of death from disease among children; and

WHEREAS, the major types of cancers in children 14 years old and younger are acute lymphocytic leukemia, brain and other central nervous systems tumors, and neuroblastoma, which are expected to account for more than half of new cases in 2017; and

WHEREAS, while the overall five-year survival rate for childhood cancer is close to 80 percent, two-thirds of those who do survive face at least one chronic health illness; and

WHEREAS, children face unique issues during their treatment for cancer because of the different effects on growing bodies compared to adult bodies so they may respond differently to drugs as adults; and

WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly apparent that childhood cancer is "for life" as effects of treatment can include heart and lung damage, second cancers, infertility, cognitive impairment, growth deficits, hearing loss, and more later in life; and

WHEREAS, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently dedicating their expertise to treat and cure children with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is one of 10 sites, five states and five cities, that provides statistics on child and adolescent cancer to the federal National Cancer Institute's SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results) Program which gathers information on childhood cancer;

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

"CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the brave children who battle cancer every day as well as their families and the organizations that help them cope through educational, emotional and financial support, and renew our commitment to prevent, treat, and cure childhood cancer to ensure that all children can experience the full and healthy upbringing they deserve.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this tenth day of August 2017.


DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


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