



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented to*

### **Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association**

**WHEREAS**, Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability which results in people having difficulties with specific language skills, particularly in reading, but also in spelling, writing and pronouncing words; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (HIDA), which had its beginnings in 1984, was officially recognized as a branch of the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) and its membership includes a dedicated group of educators, psychologists, physicians, individuals with dyslexia and parents, who have dealt with learning disability issues within local public and private schools; and

**WHEREAS**, HIDA's mission is to "increase awareness of dyslexia in our community, provide support for individuals with dyslexia, families and educators, promote teacher training, and improve literacy for struggling readers"; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 20 percent of Hawai'i's residents, regardless of age, is estimated to currently struggle with dyslexia; and

**WHEREAS**, HIDA recognizes that dyslexia affects individuals throughout their lives and can greatly hinder a person from achieving his or her full potential, and encourages those individuals who may be living with undiagnosed dyslexia to seek professional assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, HIDA advocates early identification and intervention as key to helping individuals with dyslexia achieve success in school and life;

**WHEREAS**, the Hawai'i Branch is now a recognized community leader in the area of learning disabilities and one of the most active branches of the IDA;

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

## **“DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH”**

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the efforts of the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexic Association to provide education and resources for individuals and families affected by this challenging disability.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this first day of October 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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