



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Parkinson's Disease is a chronic, progressive neurological condition with no known cure or drug to slow or halt its progression; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson's is the second most common neurodegenerative disease and the 14th leading cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's affects over 4,000 people in Hawai'i and nearly 930,000 people in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulty, speech and swallowing disturbances, cognitive impairment, dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other non-motor issues; and

WHEREAS, research suggests that the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors while there currently is no test or biomarker to diagnose the disease; and

WHEREAS, researchers, medical professionals, caregivers and volunteers are working to improve the quality of life for persons living with Parkinson's and their families; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic burden of Parkinson's Disease on patients and their families is over \$25 billion, of which about half is attributed to medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, the national and local Parkinson's community has established the principles for health care, including patient-centered care, access to providers and health care services, comprehensive insurance coverage, nondiscrimination, and appropriate long-term care services;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

"PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in supporting increased research, education and services needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality long-term care for those living with the disease today.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of March 2019.

JOSHUA B. GREEN
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i