

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) is a birth defect that occurs during fetal development causing a hole in an infant's diaphragm, which allows organs to migrate through the hole and crowd the abdomen, ultimately resulting in small and underdeveloped lungs in an infant; and

**WHEREAS**, since the year 2000, an estimated 300,000 babies worldwide have been born with CDH, and over half of these children did not survive; and

**WHEREAS**, 1,600 newborns are affected by CDH in the United States every year with only about half surviving past infancy; and

**WHEREAS**, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis but is not as well-known; and

**WHEREAS**, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications, which can include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

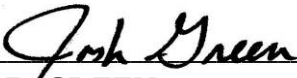
**WHEREAS**, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for CDH patients and their families and will lead to urgently needed research and medical advances;


**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**

## **“CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS MONTH”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join the fight against CDH, support children and families affected by CDH, and help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances.

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

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

  
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**DAVID Y. IGE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i