



Proclamation

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a chronic systemic disease that includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis and chronic asthma; and

WHEREAS, COPD causes long-term disability and kills more than 120,000 Americans every year; and

WHEREAS, more than 15 million adults in the U.S. are diagnosed with COPD with over 45,000 in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, smoking and secondhand smoke remain major causes of COPD, but non-smokers can also develop COPD; and

WHEREAS, about 4 percent of COPD patients have Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1), a rare underdiagnosed and undertreated genetic lung disease; and

WHEREAS, tests for both COPD and Alpha-1 are simple, quick and painless; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i COPD Coalition collaborates with many organizations to increase awareness of COPD by providing information about lung health and setting up free monthly support group meetings along with an annual education day; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with National COPD Month, November 18, 2020 is designated as World COPD Day and orange designated as the official color for COPD awareness;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 2020 as

“COPD AND ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to learn more about COPD, wear orange to show your support for COPD awareness, and encourage those at risk to get tested and seek treatment.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this second day of November 2020.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i