



Proclamation

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the world's toughest cancer—only ten percent of patients survive past the five-year mark after diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States and the seventh leading cause worldwide; and

WHEREAS, over 57,000 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and over 47,000 will die from the disease this year; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i has the sixth highest rate of pancreatic cancer diagnoses in the nation, averaging about 225 new cases a year; and

WHEREAS, according to the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center's Hawai'i Tumor Registry, pancreatic cancer accounts for eight percent of cancer deaths in men and nine percent in women around the state; and

WHEREAS, data in recent years shows that the incidence of pancreatic cancer in males is on the rise in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, the cause for pancreatic cancer is unknown, but risk factors include tobacco use, obesity, diabetes and chronic pancreatitis; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no standard diagnostic tool for pancreatic cancer, making early diagnosis difficult;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 19, 2020 as

“WORLD PANCREATIC CANCER DAY”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of pancreatic cancer risks and the urgent need for high-priority research to develop early detection methods and treatment. On this day, I would like to honor the late Senator Breene Harimoto who was instrumental in securing state funds for the new Early Phase Clinical Research Center at the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center.

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



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i