



*Proclamation
Presented*

**In Recognition of
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness and
ALS Families Appreciation Month**

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive, fatal disease with no known cause, means of prevention, or cure that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, making even the simplest movements—walking, breathing, speaking, eating, gesturing—eventually impossible; and

WHEREAS, ALS strikes people regardless of race, age, gender, ethnicity, or social status; and

WHEREAS, ALS has been shown by research to affect military veterans approximately twice as frequently as other segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Hawai'i, approximately 28 new cases of ALS are diagnosed annually, and 112 are afflicted with ALS at any one time; and

WHEREAS, our island communities must recognize ALS and its sequelae, in order for those currently affected by ALS, and those whose futures are overshadowed by the specter of ALS, to receive the understanding, legislative action, and support they need; and

WHEREAS, ALS patients and their families in Hawai'i have repeatedly demonstrated extraordinary resilience, resourcefulness, and dignity despite the difficulties of living with ALS; and

WHEREAS, national and local ALS-related organizations in Hawai'i are coordinating their efforts to provide care to ALS families, including advocating for more funding for research, service, and public awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 2014 as

**“ALS AWARENESS AND
ALS FAMILIES APPRECIATION MONTH”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in urging our citizens to become educated about ALS, lend their aid to combating the disease, and extend their aloha and support to all families living with ALS.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of April 2014.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


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