



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Autism Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month reminds us that autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, affecting more than three million people, and is an urgent public health crisis demanding a national response; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month raises awareness that autism is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the human brain, and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month highlights that the symptoms and characteristics of autism may present themselves in a variety of combinations and can result in significant lifelong impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal as well as nonverbal communication; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month underlines that as the effort to address autism continues, doctors, therapists, and educators can help persons with autism overcome or adjust to its challenges and provide early, accurate diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education, intervention, and therapy that are vital to future growth and development; and

WHEREAS, Autism Awareness Month recognizes the importance of ensuring that persons living with autism have access to the lifelong care and services needed to pursue the full measure of personal happiness and achieve their greatest potential; and

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

"AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month in the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder.

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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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