



Proclamation

Presented to

The Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association

WHEREAS, the International Dyslexia Association defines dyslexia as “a specific learning disability that is neurological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities;” as it is estimated that up to 20 percent of Hawai'i's residents currently live with dyslexia, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (HIDA) was formed to increase public awareness of dyslexia in the State of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association, which is comprised of nearly 200 members, is a dedicated group of educators, psychologists, physicians, individuals with dyslexia and parents who have dealt with learning disability issues within local public and private schools; it is the mission of HIDA to “increase awareness of dyslexia in our community, provide support for dyslexics, families and educators, promote teacher training, and improve literacy for our struggling readers;” and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association supports those individuals who may be living with undiagnosed dyslexia and encourages them to seek professional assistance; HIDA believes the first step toward getting help with dyslexia is to identify it; while there is no single test for diagnosing dyslexia, a thorough assessment involves a series of tests – cognitive, language, social, emotional and academic; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association understands that dyslexia affects individuals throughout their lives and can greatly hinder a person from achieving his or her full potential; HIDA believes that early identification and intervention are key to helping individuals with dyslexia achieve success in school and in life;

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

“DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in supporting those individuals in our community who face the daily challenges of living with dyslexia.

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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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