



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of National Reunification Month

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month is celebrated near Father's Day each year to recognize parents who have lost and regained custody of their children; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month highlights the accomplishments of families who have reunited safely and successfully, and recognizes the important role that community partners have in providing a comprehensive network of services that support reunification, including mental health and substance abuse services, court system support services, and foster parenting services; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month is recognized nationally by the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law and locally by the State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services and Partners In Development Foundation; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month calls attention to reunification being the preferred outcome for children removed from their homes and placed in foster care, and reunification is the best option for providing children an opportunity to grow and develop in a permanent, loving environment; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month is utilized by the State of Hawai'i Department of Human Services to emphasize that a "team effort" involving family members, child welfare services providers, family court, community providers, and resource caregivers is essential to successful reunification; and

WHEREAS, National Reunification Month will be celebrated on June 28, 2013, at the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center on Maui;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as

"NATIONAL REUNIFICATION MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in applauding the accomplishments of parents who have reunited with their children safely and successfully, and the contributions of community partners who inspire families to become reunited.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twentieth day of June 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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