



Proclamation

Presented to

The Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group

WHEREAS, the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) is the leading advocacy group for the pulmonary hypertension (PH) community; PH is a rare disorder causing elevated blood pressure levels in the arteries between the lungs and heart that can lead to heart failure; the mission of PHA is, "to find ways to prevent and cure pulmonary hypertension, and to provide hope for the pulmonary hypertension community through support, education, advocacy and awareness"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group (HPHASG) is the local PH advocacy group for the people of Hawai'i; HPHASG believes that the health of our community is the foundation for a caring and productive society; although PH can affect persons of all ages and backgrounds, it predominately strikes women between the ages of twenty and forty; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group recognizes that early symptoms of PH can be very subtle and easily confused with other illnesses; early symptoms include shortness of breath when walking inclines or stairs, chest heaviness or pain, fatigue, swollen ankles, dizziness, bluish tin of skin/nail beds/lips and hoarseness; HPHASG advocates early detection, as PH is often fatal if undetected or detected late; HPHASG advocates that, "awareness is the key to fighting PH"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group is part of a global online community for those touched by pulmonary hypertension; PHA offers such resources as discussion boards, email groups and online support group chats that allow members of the community to, "connect with others any time, ending isolation and providing hope"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group supports PHA's core belief that, "any person whose life is touched by PH has the right to fight back as much as health and interest allow"; in conjunction with National Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November, 2012, as

"PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to support the efforts of the dedicated staff and volunteers of the Hawai'i Pulmonary Hypertension Association Support Group as they strive to improve the lives of those persons who are affected by pulmonary hypertension.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of October, 2012.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i