Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month is made possible through the collaboration of O'ahu's five major hospice programs – Bristol Hospice, St. Francis Hospice, Hospice Hawaii, Islands Hospice and Pacific Island Health Care (The Continuing Life Center) – that have joined together to raise awareness about the benefits of early use of Hospice and palliative care – or comfort care – for Hawai'i residents including civilians and Veterans with a serious illness; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month recognizes the commitment of hospice and palliative care providers to increase patients' access to health care and better serve their communities; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month celebrates the accomplishments of We Honor Veterans, the pioneering campaign created by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve the care Veterans receive from hospice and palliative care providers; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month acknowledges that more physicians and healthcare professionals recognize the importance and value of hospice and palliative care in the continuum of specialized healthcare services for Hawai'i residents and their families ; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month places an emphasis on the quality of life of patients instead of length of life, and upholds the dignity of all individuals, both in the home or inpatient facilities; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month applauds Hawai'i's hospice programs for the advocacy of advanced care planning to honor patients' wishes while being sensitive to the feelings of family members; and

WHEREAS, National Hospice and Palliative Care Month recognizes all hospice programs in Hawai'i for their level of support in providing holistic attention for patients by caring for their physical, emotional, social and spiritual dimensions of patients and their family members;

NOW, THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and **I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim November 15, 2012, as

"NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH"

in the State of Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing Hawai'i's hospice programs for providing patients with quality care through hospice and palliative services and support for their families.

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

Neil Abercrombie

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Brian Schatz

BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i