



Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of Stroke Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month underlines that stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability and the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, killing about 130,000 people nationwide and 600 Hawai'i residents each year; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month highlights that stroke prevalence in the United States is projected to increase by 24.9 percent between 2010 and 2030, and the direct medical costs for treating stroke are expected to increase by 238 percent, from \$28.3 billion in 2010 to \$95.6 billion by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month reiterates that nearly 78 million Americans and 300,000 Hawai'i residents have high blood pressure, a major controllable risk factor for stroke, and 58 percent of Americans don't know if they are at risk for stroke; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month emphasizes that more than three out of five adults in Hawai'i cannot identify stroke warning signs and symptoms nor are aware of the need to immediately call 9-1-1; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month raises awareness that the F.A.S.T. warning signs and symptoms of stroke include: Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty and Time to call 9-1-1; beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning signs and symptoms include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month underscores that on American Stroke Month Day of Action on May 1, 2014, throughout May, and year-round, the American Stroke Association's Together to End Stroke initiative encourages Americans to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize and share the stroke warning signs, and call 9-1-1 at the first sign of a stroke; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month recognizes that new and effective time-sensitive treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes, but much more research is needed; and

WHEREAS, Stroke Awareness Month reminds us that the Hawai'i Stroke Task Force has been convened by the Department of Health to establish a stroke system of care;

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

“STROKE AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i, and ask all citizens of the Aloha State to join us in familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms, and on first sign of a stroke dial 9-1-1 immediately, so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population.

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


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


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