



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the International Dyslexia Association defines dyslexia as a "specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin... characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities"; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia affects how an individual processes language and does not indicate a lack of intelligence; and

WHEREAS, people with dyslexia have difficulty with specific language skills including reading, spelling, writing and comprehension; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 15-20 percent of the population, including as much as 292,000 residents of the state of Hawai'i, have some of the symptoms of dyslexia or another reading disability; and

WHEREAS, early identification and intervention are key to helping children with dyslexia succeed in school and throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (HIDA), incorporated in 1986 to increase public awareness of dyslexia throughout the state of Hawai'i, is a dedicated group of teachers, private tutors, parents, individuals with dyslexia, advocates, psychologists, business owners, physicians and others who have dealt with learning disability issues throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Hawai'i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association to "increase awareness of dyslexia in our community, provide support for individuals with dyslexia, families and educators, promote teacher training, and improve literacy for struggling readers";

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 2021 as

"DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the importance of early diagnosis and intervention for children identified with this learning disability and celebrating the many accomplishments of those living with dyslexia.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of October 2021.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i