

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

Dyslexia Awareness Month October 2022

WHEREAS, the International Dyslexia Association defines dyslexia as a “specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin” which results in people having difficulty with specific language skills including reading, spelling, writing and comprehension; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 15-20% of the population, including as much as 14,500 residents of Kaua’i County, have some of the symptoms of dyslexia or another reading disability; and


WHEREAS, the Hawai’i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association, 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, including in Kaua’i County; 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 people with dyslexia, their families and educators, promote teacher training, and improve literacy for struggling readers;” and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Hawai’i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association is that children be identified early, tested for specific learning challenges, and provided specialized instruction, accommodations, strategies and support necessary for attaining proficient literacy skills and lifelong success; and

WHEREAS, the public awareness and educational outreach program of the Hawai’i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association has provided educational opportunities and activities to Kaua’i parents, educators, psychologists, medical professionals and the general public, addressing a critical need for more information about dyslexia and the strategies and interventions to teach and support struggling readers on Kaua’i.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR, COUNTY OF KAUAI, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as Dyslexia Awareness Month, and thank the Hawai’i Branch of the International Dyslexia Association for providing public awareness, outreach, and educational opportunities and activities to Kaua’i parents, educators, psychologists, medical professionals, and the general public in addressing a critical need for more information about dyslexia and the strategies and interventions to teach and support struggling readers on Kaua’i.



Derek S. K. Kawakami
Mayor, County of Kaua’i
State of Hawai’i

