



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Plasma Awareness Week

WHEREAS, plasma is a liquid portion of blood that contains proteins and antibodies, and is collected from plasma donors and manufactured into lifesaving plasma protein therapies that are used to replace missing or deficient proteins in patients with rare, genetic disorders that have no generic or alternate therapy; and

WHEREAS, plasma-derived and recombinant therapies, collectively known as plasma protein therapies, are unique, biologic products for which no substitutes exist, and these plasma protein therapies save and improve lives of individuals throughout Hawai'i and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the diseases that plasma therapies treat include hemophilia A & B, other bleeding disorders, primary immune deficiencies, Rh negative pregnancies, and alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, all rare as well as genetic, chronic conditions, but can be treated with plasma therapy; and

WHEREAS, in Hawai'i an estimated 550 patients rely on plasma protein therapies to lead healthy and productive lives, and each year roughly 1,100 pregnant women in Hawai'i receive plasma protein therapies to protect mother and baby from complications due to incompatible blood types; and

WHEREAS, the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association represents over 450 human plasma collection centers in North America and Europe, supplying approximately 80 percent of plasma protein therapies in the U.S. and 60 percent of those in Europe; and

WHEREAS, the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association strives to promote the availability of and access to safe and effective plasma protein therapies for patients all over the world;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2016 as

"PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawai'i, and urge the people of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of the importance of plasma donation and its impact on patients with rare diseases, the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and the conditions they treat.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, in Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fifth day of October 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE

Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i