



Proclamation

Hawai'i's children represent our brightest hope for the future and deserve a healthy beginning and the chance to realize their potential. However, the health of our children is at tremendous risk when alcohol is consumed during pregnancy. The consumption of any amount of alcoholic beverages during pregnancy can result in a baby being born with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

FASD is a leading cause of mental retardation in America and children born with this disorder have physical, behavioral, mental and learning disabilities.

In Hawai'i, it is estimated that 180 infants are born with FASD each year. The estimated lifetime costs in medical care, special education, special services and lost productivity are estimated to be \$1.5 million to \$3 million for each individual with FASD.

FASD is completely 100 percent preventable. If alcohol is not consumed during pregnancy, babies will not be born with the disease. It is of the utmost importance that all men and women in Hawai'i are aware of the dangers involved with consuming alcohol during the nine months of pregnancy.

Hawai'i joins individuals, families and communities around the world to observe International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 9, 2008, as

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER AWARENESS DAY

in Hawai'i, to promote understanding of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol, to enhance our statewide prevention efforts, to increase compassion for those individuals and their families so affected and to ensure healthier communities in the future.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-seventh day of August 2008.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i