

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS, diaper need, the condition of not having a sufficient supply of clean diapers to keep babies and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy, can adversely affect the health and well-being of babies, toddlers, and their families; and,

WHEREAS national research studies report that 1 in 3 families struggles with diaper need, and many families delay changing a diaper to extend the available supply, risking infections and health problems that may require medical attention resulting in medical costs; and,

WHEREAS infants and toddlers go through 6 to 12 diapers each day during the 2 to 3 years they wear diapers, and purchasing enough diapers to keep a baby or toddler clean, dry, and healthy can consume 14% of a low-wage family's post-tax income, making it difficult to provide the necessary supply; and,

WHEREAS a daily or weekly supply of diapers is generally an eligibility requirement for babies and toddlers to participate in childcare programs and quality early-education programs that enable children to thrive and parents to work; and,

WHEREAS, diaper need is a public health issue, and addressing the issue can lead to economic opportunity for the state's families and communities and improved health for children, thus ensuring all children and families have access to the basic necessities required to thrive and reach their full potential; and,

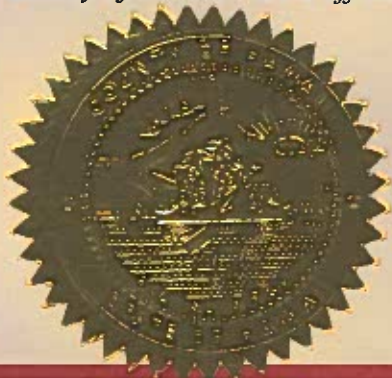
WHEREAS Hawai'i Diaper Bank, a trusted community-based organization whose mission is to serve and support the keiki of Hawai'i by providing diapers, wipes, and other basic essentials to organizations that support low-income families with young children, continues to do everything in their ability to increase diaper distribution and community education.

NOW THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL D. ROTH, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 24 – October 2, 2022, as

NATIONAL DIAPER NEED AWARENESS WEEK

in the County of Hawai'i to raise awareness and encourage all citizens to donate generously to organizations that collect and distribute diapers, in support of the physical, mental, and economic well-being of babies, families, and communities.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 24th day of September 2022, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M D Roth', is written over the printed name.

MITCHELL D. ROTH
Mayor