

# Proclamation

Lung cancer is an uncontrolled cell growth in the lungs, which causes difficulty breathing and can spread to other parts of the body. It is the leading cancer killer, taking more lives annually than breast, prostate and colon cancers combined.

The American Cancer Society estimates that more than 161,800 people will die from lung cancer in the United States in 2008, and about 570 of those will be Hawai'i residents. In addition, an estimated 710 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed in the state. And the majority of those cases – those caused by smoking – are entirely preventable.

About 90 percent of the lung cancer deaths in men and almost 80 percent of the lung cancer deaths in women are caused by smoking, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition, smoking increases the risk of contracting 15 other types of cancer, as well.

People who never smoked can get lung cancer. In fact, secondhand smoke also takes the lives of about 3,000 nonsmokers annually. Smoke contains thousands of chemicals, of which 50 are known to be carcinogenic. Other risk factors include exposure to arsenic, asbestos, radon and other substances.

That is why it is important to be cognizant of the risk factors associated with lung cancer. Discovering the disease early can make a difference. While the five-year overall survival rate is just 15 percent for those who contract the disease, early detection can improve the odds of survival to almost 50 percent.

Because of this, we ask the citizens of Hawai'i to join us in observing Lung Cancer Awareness Month and spreading the word about ways to prevent this deadly affliction.

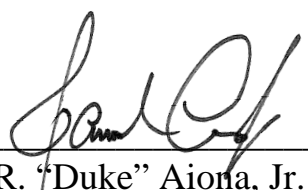
**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim November 2008, as**

## **LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

in Hawai'i, and urge our residents to avoid risky behavior, such as smoking, and to increase awareness of the disease among friends and loved ones.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of November 2008.

  
Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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