

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN) is dedicated to improving patient care by advancing the science and practice of clinical nutrition and metabolism; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1976, ASPEN is an interdisciplinary organization whose members are involved in the provision of clinical nutrition therapies, including parenteral and enteral nutrition; and

WHEREAS, with members from around the world, ASPEN is a community of dietitians, nurses, pharmacists, physicians, scientists, students and other health professionals from every facet of nutrition support - clinical practice, research and education; and

WHEREAS, ASPEN envisions an environment in which every patient receives safe, efficacious and high-quality nutritional care; and

WHEREAS, experts agree that nutrition status is a direct measure of health and that good nutrition can keep people healthy and out of healthcare institutions; and

WHEREAS, up to 27 percent of hospitalized pediatric patients have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times longer hospital stays compared to patients with no malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, the 30-day hospital readmission rate is roughly two times higher than those of patients without malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, readmitted malnourished patients are twice as likely to be diagnosed with an infection; and

WHEREAS, malnourished patients have two times the mortality rate of all hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, 20 to 40 percent of adults in the community are at risk or have malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, screening, assessment, diagnosis and intervention are keys to improving malnutrition in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the **State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim September 8 through 12, 2025 as

"MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK"

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to join me in supporting this awareness campaign designed to educate healthcare professionals, government leaders, community agencies, patients and caregivers on the negative consequences of malnutrition.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-second day of August 2025.

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i