A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that alcohol consumption 2 during pregnancy has been recognized as the leading preventable
- 3 cause of birth defects and developmental disorders in the United
- 4 States. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control
- 5 and Prevention, an estimated one in eight women drink alcohol
- 6 during pregnancy, placing their children at risk for a variety
- 7 of developmental, cognitive, and behavioral issues.
- 8 The legislature also finds that as many as forty thousand
- $oldsymbol{9}$ babies are born in the United States each year with fetal
- 10 alcohol spectrum disorder, an umbrella term used to describe the
- 11 range of physical and cognitive deficits, many of them lifelong,
- 12 that may be experienced by persons whose mothers drank alcohol
- 13 during pregnancy.
- 14 The purpose of this Act is to designate the month of
- 15 September as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month to
- 16 promote public awareness of the risks of alcohol consumption
- 17 during pregnancy.



- 1 SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
- 3 read as follows:
- 4 "§8- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month.
- 5 The month of September shall be known and designated as "Fetal
- 6 Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month" to promote public
- 7 awareness of the risks of alcohol consumption during pregnancy.
- 8 This month is not and shall not be construed as a state
- 9 holiday."
- 10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2021

H.B. NO. 769

Report Title:

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month

Description:

Designates the month of September as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month to promote public awareness of the risks of alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

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