WHEREAS, the well-being of our children – our most precious resource – is of paramount importance to the State of Idaho, and maintaining excellent health among children is a top priority; and

WHEREAS, in America, congenital heart defects (CHD) are the most frequently occurring birth defects and are the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, in America, approximately 40,000 infants each year are born with CHD; and

WHEREAS, although numerous professionals are researching CHD in an effort to more accurately determine its origin, physical signs and improve surgical options, there remains a great need for life-saving research projects and funding for those projects; and

WHEREAS, there is much to learn about the causes of and effective treatments for CHD and it is important for parents, pediatricians and nurses to recognize the warning signs associated with CHD among newborns so they can provide proper treatment as early as possible; and

WHEREAS, many of Idaho’s families and communities have been directly impacted by childhood illness and death caused by CHD; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week will provide opportunities to share experiences and information with the public and the news media in order to raise public awareness about CHD;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2017 to be

CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK

in Idaho and encourage residents to join in the campaign to increase awareness of this serious health issue in order to obtain early diagnosis.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 7th day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-seventh.

C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER
GOVERNOR

LAWERENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE