PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we must increase the public's awareness of scoliosis and help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine which affects 2–3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis impacts people of all ages, regardless of race or socio-economic status, and there is no cure; and

WHEREAS, the primary age for onset of scoliosis is 10-15 years of age, occurring equally among both genders, but with females five to eight times more likely to progress; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis can impact a person's quality of life with limited activity, pain, reduced respiratory function, or diminished self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, screening programs allow for the early detection and treatment that may alleviate the worst effects of scoliosis.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD BLOOM, MAYOR of the City of Santa Monica, on behalf of the Members of the City Council, do hereby recognize the month of June, 2012 as NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH and invite our community to learn and support programs to help fight this crippling disease.

Dated this 1ST day of June, 2012

RICHARD BLOOM
MAYOR