Proclamation

WHEREAS, scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine with no known cause, is a condition affecting 2 to 3 percent of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis is a condition that strikes without regard to gender, race, age or economic status; and

WHEREAS, an estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, with approximately one of every six children being diagnosed with this condition eventually being required to receive active medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between 10 and 15, with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

WHEREAS, screening programs allow for early detection, and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim June 2012 to be

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Missouri, to raise awareness of this condition and to help children, parents, and health care providers understand and recognize the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 4th day of June, 2012.

[Signature]
Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

Attest:
[Signature]
Secretary of State