WHEREAS, awareness of scoliosis must be increased to help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis; and

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

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

WHEREAS, an estimated one million scoliosis patients seek health care yearly,

WHEREAS, one in every six children is diagnosed with this condition and eventually requires active medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between ten and fifteen 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, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim June 2012 as

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this 12th day of July, 2012.

[Signature]

Governor

[Signature]

Secretary of State