WHEREAS: Scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine with no known cause, is a condition affecting an estimated 7 million people in the United States, and it strikes without regard to gender, race, age or economic status; and

WHEREAS: We must increase the public’s awareness of scoliosis and help children, parents, adults, and healthcare providers understand, recognize and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as Scoliosis; and

WHEREAS: An estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care annually, 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 that may alleviate the worst effects of the condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALVIN BROWN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as

NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to join me in renewing our commitment to raising awareness of the spinal condition of Scoliosis, and to recognize the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering it causes.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 3rd day of June in the year Two Thousand .

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA