SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

JUNE 2013

WHEREAS, increased public awareness is needed to understand, recognize and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine with no known cause and is affecting an estimated 7 million people in the United States; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, do hereby proclaim June 2013, as "SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH" in Washington, D.C. and call upon all the residents of this great city to join me in increasing awareness and getting the community involved in the fight against this disease.

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