Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine that affects about 6 million people in the United States. The primary age of onset for the condition is 10 to 15.

There is no known cure for scoliosis, which can cause patients to experience pain, reduced physical activity, pressure on the lungs and heart and diminished self-esteem. About one in six people with scoliosis requires treatment, ranging from wearing a brace to undergoing spinal surgery. Girls are five times more likely than boys to need treatment.

Screening programs assist with early detection and treatment, which may ward off the worst of the condition’s effects. While there are screening programs in schools, it is also important that parents learn about and recognize the early symptoms of scoliosis.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about the symptoms of scoliosis. Together, we can make a difference in the health of Texas children.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 2013 to be

**Scoliosis Awareness Month**

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 6th day of May, 2013.

[Signature]

Governor of Texas