Proclamation
by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

Whereas, scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition which affects 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States without regard to gender, age, race 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 10-15 years of age, occurring equally among both genders, but with females five to eight times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

Whereas, increased public awareness of scoliosis can help children, parents, adults and health care providers understand and recognize the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis; and

Whereas, scoliosis can impact a person’s quality of life by limiting activity and causing pain, reducing respiratory function and/or diminishing self-esteem; and

Whereas, early detection and treatment may alleviate the worst effects of scoliosis; and

Whereas, the orthopaedists and other health professionals throughout the state continue to offer diagnostic services and treatment to children and adults with scoliosis and other spinal deformities.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as:

National Scoliosis Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to become aware of the societal and economic burdens of musculoskeletal diseases such as scoliosis.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-First day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen and in the One Hundred Fiftieth year of the State.

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State