PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Scoliosis, the abnormal curvature of the spine, is a condition which affects two to three per cent of the population, or an estimated seven million people in the United States, and the disease strikes without regard to gender, race, age or economic status; and

WHEREAS, public awareness of this condition, which has no cure, is vital in helping children, parents and health care providers diagnose, understand and treat the disease; and

WHEREAS, Scoliosis, most prevalent in otherwise-healthy children, has no known cause but primarily onsets between the ages of ten and fifteen and is five to eight times more likely to progress to a magnitude that requires treatment in females; and

WHEREAS, approximately one of every six children diagnosed with this disease will eventually require active medical treatment, and an estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly; and

WHEREAS, Scoliosis can cause pain, reduced respiratory function and limited mobility; and

WHEREAS, screening programs allow for early detection and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition; and

WHEREAS, we observe National Scoliosis Awareness Month to renew our commitment to raising awareness of and combating the disease and to recognize the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering caused by scoliosis:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby recognize June 2016 as

Scoliosis Awareness Month

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 15th day of June in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fortieth.

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR