

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATEMENT IN OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, we must increase the public's awareness of scoliosis and help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as Scoliosis; and

WHEREAS, Scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States. Scoliosis is a condition which strikes without regard to gender, race, age, 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 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 the condition.

Now, Therefore, We, Jack A. Markell, Governor, and Matthew Denn, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby declare June, 2012

NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

And pledge to continue to work to both raise awareness and fight Scoliosis in the State of Delaware.

Jack A. Markell

Matthew Denn Lieutenant Governor

> 12-0207 Number