



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Scoliosis is an ailment that affects any gender, race, age, or socioeconomic status. It is an abnormal curvature of the spine that has no known cause and affects over 7 million people nationwide.; and

WHEREAS: Public awareness of scoliosis is an important part in the effort to help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities; and

WHEREAS: One million scoliosis patients utilize health care annually, with approximately one out of every six children being diagnosed with this condition who eventually require medical treatment. The primary age of onset for scoliosis is between 10 and 15 years old, with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment. Screening programs allow for early detection and for the treatment opportunities that which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition; and

WHEREAS: Georgians are encouraged to observe National Scoliosis Awareness Month by renewing our commitment to raise awareness of the spinal condition and to recognize the need for increased research and funding that one day can further alleviate the suffering of millions affected by this condition; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2012, as SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Cl. v. R.*

CHIEF OF STAFF