

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH JUNE 2012

- WHEREAS,** *It is important to 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; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland joins the commitment to raise awareness of and combat the spinal condition of Scoliosis, and to recognize the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering it causes.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim June 2012 as NATIONAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of June
Two Thousand and twelve

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Robert Ehrlich
Lt. Governor

Joe C. McPherson
Secretary of State