

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation *by* *Governor Sean Parnell*

WHEREAS, scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, is the most common deformity of the spine, affecting an estimated six million people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between 10 and 15, with girls being more likely to be affected than boys; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for scoliosis; those affected by it might wear a brace to stop the curve from getting worse, or doctors may recommend surgery to correct a curve or stop the curve from getting worse; and

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

WHEREAS, scoliosis, when left untreated, may cause chronic back pain, impact heart and lung function, and negatively affect self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness of scoliosis is vital as we work to help children, adults, families, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as scoliosis.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as:

Scoliosis Awareness Month

in Alaska, and encourage Alaskans to support those affected by scoliosis along with their families, and to promote annual health care visits to ensure screening for scoliosis.

Dated: May 30, 2014



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean Parnell".

Sean Parnell, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.