



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, scoliosis is a musculoskeletal, multifactorial disorder in which there is an abnormal sideways curvature of the spine; and

WHEREAS, this condition affects 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 6 million people in the United States, and there is no cure; and

WHEREAS, despite physicians trying to treat this spinal deformity for centuries, 85% of cases are classified as idiopathic; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis affects infants, adolescents and adults worldwide. The primary age of onset is ten to fifteen years of age and it occurs equally among both genders; however, females are eight times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Scoliosis Foundation, the vast majority of people with scoliosis are not expected to require treatment; however, each year patients make more than 600,000 visits to private physicians' offices, an estimated 30,000 children are put into a brace for scoliosis and 38,000 patients undergo spinal fusion surgery; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis impacts the individual's quality of life with limited activity, pain, reduced respiratory function and/or diminished self-esteem; and

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

WHEREAS, observing Scoliosis Awareness Month renews our commitment to raising awareness of and combating scoliosis, helping healthcare providers and the public understand and recognize its complexities, and highlighting the need for increased research to reduce the pain and suffering it causes;

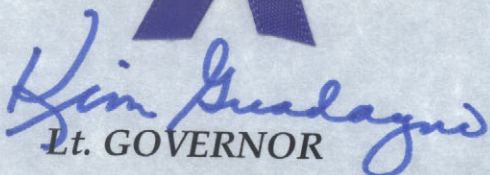
NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

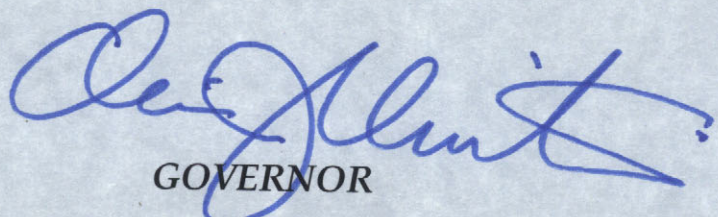
JUNE 2014
AS
SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this second day of June in the year two thousand fourteen, the two hundred thirty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR