



**THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Charlotte Amalie, V.I. 00802

340-774-0001

**SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH**

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**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS**

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**A PROCLAMATION**


Scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting between 2% and 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. An estimated one (1) million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, with approximately one (1) of every six (6) children being diagnosed with this condition eventually being required to receive active medical treatment.

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. The primary onset for scoliosis is between the ages of ten (10) and fifteen (15) years with females being more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment. Screening programs allow for early detection, and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition.


**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John P. de Jongh, Jr., Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Revised Organic Act of 1954, as amended, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2014 as *Scoliosis Awareness Month* in the United States Virgin Islands. I encourage all parents, guardians and health professionals throughout the Territory to join with me and pledge to continue to work to both raise awareness and fight Scoliosis in the Territory.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands to be affixed at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May, A. D., 2014.



  
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**John P. de Jongh, Jr.**  
Governor

**Attest:**

  
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**Gregory R. Francis**  
Lieutenant Governor