

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas 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; 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,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in accordance with Chapter 148 of the Acts of 1935 of the General laws, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2016, to be,

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of June, in the year two thousand and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in blue ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in blue ink.

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in blue ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts