



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Scoliosis Awareness Month**

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately one of every six children diagnosed with scoliosis has a curve that requires active treatment, sometimes involving surgery; 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**, with community awareness, early detection, and proper treatment, people diagnosed with scoliosis can lead healthy, active lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim June 2017 as: *Scoliosis Awareness Month* in the state and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 31 day of May, 2017

A blue ink signature of Nellie M. Gorbea.

**Nellie M. Gorbea**  
Secretary of State

A black ink signature of Gina M. Raimondo.

**Gina M. Raimondo**  
Governor