



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Scoliosis is classified as an abnormal curvature of the spine. This idiopathic condition affects between 2 to 3 percent of the population, or an estimated seven million individuals in the United States; and

WHEREAS: Scoliosis affects individuals regardless of gender, race, age, or socioeconomic status. However, females are five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment, such as bracing or surgery; and

WHEREAS: The onset of scoliosis typically occurs between 10 and 15 years of age; and

WHEREAS: Approximately one million scoliosis patients utilize health care each year, and nearly one in six children diagnosed with the condition has a curve that requires active medical treatment; and

WHEREAS: Screening programs allow for early detection and advanced treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition. Complications of scoliosis may include lung and heart damage, back pain, and changes in appearance; and

WHEREAS: A greater understanding of scoliosis and its effects is necessary to help children, parents, adults, and health care providers better understand, recognize, and treat such complex spinal deformities; and

WHEREAS: Scoliosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the need for further research and funding to provide those affected by scoliosis with improved treatment options and enhance their overall quality of life; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 4th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF