



*State of Missouri*  
*Governor's 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; and

**WHEREAS**, scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting two to three percent of the population, or an estimated seven million people in the United States. Scoliosis is a condition that 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 diagnosed with this condition eventually 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, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim June 2020 to be

**SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH**

in Missouri, so that all Missourians recognize the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering it causes.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.



*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE