



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Scoliosis is an ailment that can affect a member of any gender, race, age, or socioeconomic status. It is an abnormal curvature of the spine that has no known cause and affects over 7 million people nationwide, or 2–3 percent of the population; and
- WHEREAS: Public awareness of scoliosis is an important component to the effort to help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize, and treat the complexities of spinal deformities; and
- WHEREAS: An estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care resources annually, with approximately one out of every six children being diagnosed with this condition eventually requiring active medical treatment. The primary age of onset for scoliosis is between 10 and 15 years old, with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment. Screening programs allow for early detection and for treatment opportunities that may alleviate the worst effects of the condition; and
- WHEREAS: Georgians are encouraged to observe Scoliosis Awareness Month by renewing our commitment to raise awareness of the spinal condition and to recognize the need for increased research and funding that may one day further alleviate the suffering of millions affected by this condition; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 2014 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 March in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF