

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting 2-3 percent of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States and Scoliosis is a condition that strikes without regard to gender, race, age, or economic status; and

**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**, an estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, with approximately one of every six children diagnosed with this condition eventually requiring active medical treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between ten and fifteen years old 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 that may alleviate the worst effects of the condition; and

**WHEREAS** National Scoliosis Awareness Month renews our commitment to raising awareness of and combating the spinal condition of Scoliosis, and recognizes the need for increased research and funding to reduce the pain and suffering caused by Scoliosis;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby join with my colleagues around the country and proclaim June, 2017 as

### *Scoliosis Awareness Month*

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2016

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee