

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Relating to Scoliosis Awareness Month in Missouri.

Whereas, increasing public awareness of scoliosis will 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, is a condition that affects 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States, without regard to gender, race, age, or economic status; and

Whereas, an estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, and approximately one of every six children who are diagnosed with this condition eventually being required to receive active medical treatment; and

Whereas, the primary age of onset scoliosis is between ten and fifteen with females being five times more likely to require treatment; and

Whereas, screening programs allow for early detection and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby designate June as "Scoliosis Awareness Month" in Missouri to increase public awareness of the spinal condition of scoliosis and to recognize the need for research to reduce the pain and suffering it causes; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Department of Health and Senior Services shall take appropriate action to promote

Scoliosis Awareness Month, including adopting appropriate programs and initiatives to raise public awareness of scoliosis and the importance of early screening; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to send a properly inscribed copy of this resolution to the Governor for his approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.