

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, healthy children are the most important resource in Ohio, and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders are irreversible, lifelong conditions that affect every aspect of a child's life and pose a serious threat to the potential health of our future generations; and

WHEREAS, prenatal exposure to alcohol is the leading cause of preventable birth defects, mental retardation, learning disabilities, attention deficits, and behavior disorders; and

WHEREAS, individuals with FASD often have secondary disabilities, such as trouble with the law, substance abuse issues, disrupted school experiences, employment problems, and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, one in every 100 babies born in Ohio each year suffers physical, mental, and developmental disabilities as a result of his or her mother's decision to drink or use drugs during pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, the cost of FASD to Ohio taxpayers for providing special services for education, juvenile justice, medical and behavioral health services, foster care and unemployment is an estimated \$300 million annually; and

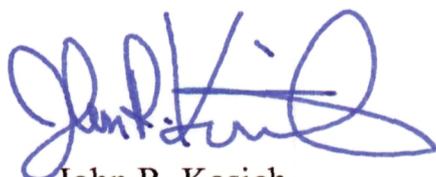
WHEREAS, FASD is entirely preventable and no amount of alcohol is safe to consume for a pregnant or nursing mother.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 2013 as

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

throughout Ohio and encourage expectant mothers to combat the ills of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders by remembering that during the nine months of pregnancy a woman should abstain from all alcohol.

On this 1st day of September, 2013;



John R. Kasich
Governor

