

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) 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 problems, such as trouble with the law, substance abuse issues, disrupted school experiences, employment problems and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1,193 babies born with FASD in Ohio each year suffer 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 to Ohio taxpayers for providing special services for education and juvenile justice for children aged 5-18 years with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is an estimated \$50,364,720 annually; and

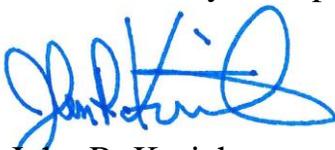
WHEREAS, FASD is entirely preventable and no amount of alcohol is safe to consume for a pregnant or nursing mother.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 2015 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 2015;



John R. Kasich
Governor



Mary Taylor
Lieutenant Governor

