



In the Name and by the Authority of
THE STATE OF

OHIO



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

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

WHEREAS, individuals with FASD often have challenges such as substance abuse issues, disrupted school experiences, barriers to employment, homelessness or involvement with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1,193 babies born with FASD in Ohio each year are affected by physical, mental and developmental disabilities as a result of prenatal exposure to alcohol; 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, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 2019 as

**FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS
AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH**

on this 1st day of September 2019.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor