

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

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 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 face challenges, 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 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 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 2018 as

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

throughout Ohio and encourage expectant mothers to abstain from alcohol during pregnancy.

On this 1st day of September 2018;

John R. Kasich
Governor

Mary Taylor
Lieutenant Governor

