



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the term "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders" includes a broader range of conditions and therefore has replaced the term "fetal alcohol syndrome" as the umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy; and;

WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) are a leading cause of mental retardation in western civilization, including the United States, and are 100 percent preventable; and

WHEREAS, FASD are a leading cause of mental retardation and also contribute to learning and behavioral disabilities, and;

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin leads the nation in binge drinking by women of childbearing age and the number of women who drink alcohol during pregnancy, and;

WHEREAS, based on nationwide incidence estimates for FASD, each year in Wisconsin approximately 70-80 babies are born with fetal alcohol syndrome and an additional 150-200 are born with other fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, and;

WHEREAS, in 1992 the State of Wisconsin provided funding to create a program called the Family Empowerment Network to support families affected by FASD, and;

WHEREAS, the Family Empowerment Network continues to provide education, resources, support, and clinical outreach to families at risk for FASD, and;

WHEREAS, in 2004 the State of Wisconsin received federal funding to develop three comprehensive FASD Prevention and Intervention Initiatives to best meet the needs of families affected by FASD;

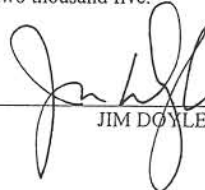
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE, Governor of the State of Wisconsin do hereby designate September 9, 2005 as

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Wisconsin, and calls upon the people of Wisconsin to:

- A. Observe "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day" to:
1. Promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol;
 2. Increase compassion for individuals affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol;
 3. Minimize further effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol; and
 4. Ensure healthier communities across the State; and
 5. Ensure that women with alcohol concerns have a point of contact within their own community.
- B. Observe a moment of reflection on the ninth hour of September 9, 2005, to remember that during the 9 months of pregnancy a woman should not consume alcohol.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this thirtieth day of August in the year two thousand five.


JIM DOYLE



By the

DOUGLAS LA FOLLE
Secretary of State