

# 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

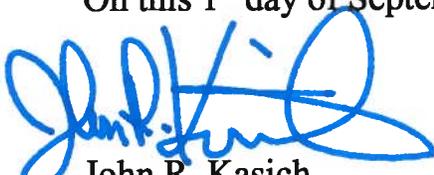
**WHEREAS**, FASD is entirely preventable and no amount of alcohol is safe to consume for a pregnant or nursing mother:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby recognize September 2012 as

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

throughout Ohio and I 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2012;

  
John R. Kasich  
Governor

