

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, influenza is the most frequent vaccine-preventable cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20,000 children under the age of five are hospitalized due to influenza each year in the United States. Infants and toddlers are hospitalized as a result of influenza at rates similar to elderly people and at higher rates than all other ages. On average, nearly 100 children die in the United States from influenza and its complications every year; and

WHEREAS, children generally have the highest chance of becoming ill from influenza and often spread the virus throughout their communities. During severe influenza seasons, as many as 30 percent of school-age children are diagnosed with influenza, resulting in approximately 38 million school absences each year; and

WHEREAS, an annual influenza vaccination is the most effective method for preventing influenza infection and its complications. The influenza vaccine is recommended to be administered to persons aged six months and older to reduce the likelihood of becoming ill with influenza and transmitting it to others; and

WHEREAS, experts believe vaccinating children may help prevent deaths and the illness from spreading to adults and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the need to expand vaccination rates of children is a national priority; and

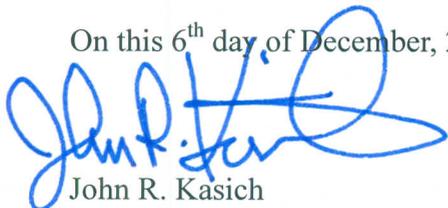
WHEREAS, increased communication and education to parents and healthcare providers can increase vaccination rates for children and adults and reduce infection and serious illness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby designate December 6, 2011 as

CHILDREN'S INFLUENZA VACCINATION AWARENESS DAY

throughout Ohio and commend the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's efforts to reduce the incidence of vaccine preventable disease in the United States, including communication and education outreach through National Influenza Vaccination Week on December 4-10, 2011.

On this 6th day of December, 2011;


John R. Kasich
Governor

