

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF OREGON



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Alcohol is a factor in the four leading causes of death among persons ages 10-24: motor-vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide; and
- WHEREAS:** 9.7 million drinkers in the United States are between the ages of 12-20; and
- WHEREAS:** Alcohol is the most frequently used drug by high-school students in Oregon; and
- WHEREAS:** 37,700 youth in Oregon have a serious alcohol problem; and
- WHEREAS:** Young people in Oregon begin drinking, on average, at 13 years of age; and
- WHEREAS:** The average Oregon youth will see 100,000 beer commercials before he or she turns 18 – more than for sneakers, gum and jeans; and
- WHEREAS:** 30.1% of Oregon eighth graders and 47.4% of Oregon eleventh graders reported regular alcohol use during 2005, with girls drinking at higher rates at both levels; and
- WHEREAS:** Young people in Oregon who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and
- WHEREAS:** Alcohol abuse is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students; it is a major factor in unprotected sex among youth, increasing their risk of contracting HIV or other transmitted diseases.

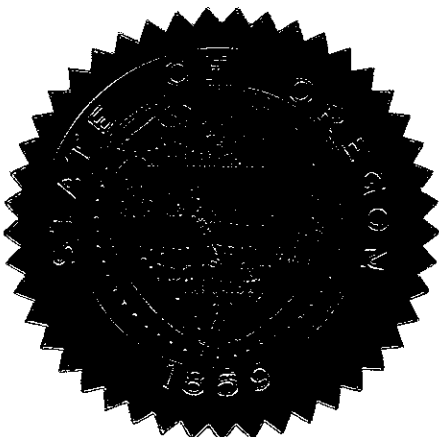
NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **April 2006** to be

ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, March 9, 2006.



Theodore R. Kulongoski
Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Bill Bradbury
Bill Bradbury, Secretary of State