



A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, The decreasing physical activity of children and their detachment from outdoor activities has been well documented in recent years, resulting in increased rates of childhood obesity and the resulting chronic diseases; poor development of social skills; higher occurrences of attention deficit disorder; poor classroom performance; higher occurrences of stress and depression; and vitamin-D deficiency; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 34 percent of Nevada children ages 10-17 are overweight or obese, and more than half, 54 percent, of Nevada high school students do not meet recommended guidelines for physical activity; and

WHEREAS, There is growing evidence indicating that children are "smarter, more cooperative, happier, and healthier when they have frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play in the out-of-doors"; and

WHEREAS, Free play in natural areas helps to foster higher-level thinking abilities and creativity, as well as higher levels of self-discipline and self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, Nevadans enjoy a diversity of public lands, parks, and trails, where there are many opportunities for outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, There are a variety of barriers that impact the ability of families to participate in outdoor activities, such as adults not being comfortable outdoors; lack of transportation and access; and lack of knowledge and skills about places to go and what to do; and

WHEREAS, In January 2010, an alliance of nearly 30 local, state, and federal agencies and community organizations came together to create the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights as a tool to communicate the benefits of being outside and physically active; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights states that the children of Nevada have the right to discover and experience the outdoors through the following activities: create an outdoor adventure; explore a trail; camp under the stars; go fishing; discover nature; explore Nevada's heritage; go on a picnic; play in a park, in the water, in the snow, or on the rocks; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Alliance is recognized as a collaborative partnership in bringing awareness of the importance of increasing participation of all children in outdoor activities and promoting the health and wellness benefits of being active outdoors, and supporting the Nevada Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

CHILDREN'S OUTDOOR BILL OF RIGHTS MONTH IN NEVADA



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 23rd day of March, 2012.


By the Governor: _____ Governor


Secretary of State

By _____ Deputy