

PROCLAMATION

Children's Dental Health Month
February 2012

WHEREAS: Dental decay is the most common chronic disease in children, five times as common as asthma, and

WHEREAS: Healthy smiles are an important part of good overall health, and

WHEREAS: Brushing twice daily using toothpaste with fluoride, flossing daily, having routine check ups, and eating a diet low in sugary foods and drinks help prevent tooth decay, and

WHEREAS: Good oral health habits start in childhood, and

WHEREAS: An oral health literate and educated public is more empowered to embrace healthy oral hygiene and dietary behaviors and to make and keep dental appointments, and

WHEREAS: The State of Maryland is pleased to join with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the University of Maryland Dental School National Museum of Dentistry and the American Dental Association in promoting good oral health through interactive websites that inspire children young and old to discover the power of a healthy smile (www.mouthpower.org), unlock the mysteries of DNA and the body to discover what your mouth says about you ([www.dentalmuseum.org/ysi/Your Spitting Image](http://www.dentalmuseum.org/ysi/Your_Spitting_Image)) and challenge them to test their knowledge by playing Million Dollar Smile and Dental Jeopardy! (<http://fha.maryland.gov/oralhealth/>)

NOW, THEREFORE, I, (OFFICIAL'S NAME) (OFFICIAL'S TITLE), do hereby proclaim February 2012 as CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH in (YOUR CITY/TOWN/COUNTY), and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

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