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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Gov. Nixon Issues Proclamation for Missouri Men's Health Week – June 10-16, 2013**

(Washington, DC) – Governor Jeremiah W. Nixon issued a proclamation declaring June 10-16 *Missouri Men's Health Week*— the week leading up to Father's Day— which is a special campaign to help educate men, boys and their families about the importance of positive health attitudes and preventive health practices. The proclamation encouraged Missouri citizens to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise and medical check-ups.

**“Educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems will result in reducing rates of mortality from disease,”** the proclamation said. **“Men who are educated about the value of preventive health will be more likely to participate in health screenings.”**

In preparation for Missouri Men's Health Week, health care professionals, private industry, faith-based organizations, community groups, insurance companies, and all other interested organizations and individual citizens, are invited to organize and plan for activities and events, which will focus on men's health during the week of June 10-16. For ideas and open resources in both English and Spanish, visit [www.nationalmenshealthweek.org](http://www.nationalmenshealthweek.org) and [www.menshealthmonth.org](http://www.menshealthmonth.org).

**“Men's Health Week mission is to increase awareness of a broad range of men's health issues, including heart disease, diabetes, prostate, testicular and colon cancers,”** said Ana Fadich, MHN Vice President. **“Governor Nixon has helped us contribute to this mission through issuing a Missouri Men's Health Week Proclamation. We invite Missouri residents to participate in this awareness campaign which aims at making families and communities stronger by improving the health of men and boys in America.”**

National Men's Health Week, sponsored by Senator Bob Dole and Congressman Bill Richardson, passed Congress and was signed into law by President Clinton, on May 31, 1994.

*Men's Health Week is organized by [Men's Health Network](http://www.menshealthnetwork.org) (MHN), a national non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys, and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health prevention messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities, and patient navigation. Learn more about MHN at [www.menshealthnetwork.org](http://www.menshealthnetwork.org) and follow them on Twitter @MensHlthNetwork.*

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