

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the scourge of drug and alcohol abuse continues to be painfully visible throughout the nation and is acknowledged to be one of the most serious problems that the nation's cities have had to face over the years; and

WHEREAS, in Ohio, drug and alcohol abuse has been responsible for the loss of livelihood and the loss of life in virtually every community and the cost of combatting drug and alcohol abuse in our schools, hospitals and streets has grown steadily over the years, far outstripping the ability of local governments to maintain the prevention efforts that are required; and

WHEREAS, local leaders, in government and in the community, know that the support of people in the neighborhoods is the most effective weapon they can have in their efforts to reduce substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, the majority of kids say their parents are their primary influence when it comes to decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS, in response to scientific evidence that parental influence can reduce underage drinking, PowerTalk 21 Day, was started by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in 2011, to encourage parents and caregivers to embrace their important role in influencing America's youth and their decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS, statistics show through combined prevention efforts, the number of youth using alcohol has declined but there is more work to be done and the fact is, underage drinking is hazardous to the health and safety of children and parents have a role in their child's decision to make healthy choices; and

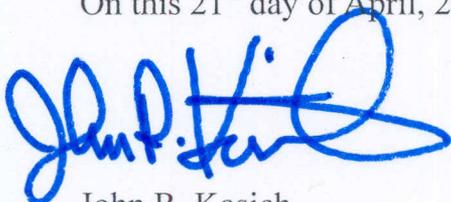
WHEREAS, alcohol is the number one youth drug problem in America and more young people die from alcohol-related causes than from all other illicit drugs combined. Six thousand people under age 21 will die from alcohol-related injuries each year and each day nearly 8,000 youth, ages 12 to 17, will drink alcohol for the first time.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby designate April 21, 2012 as

POWERTALK 21 DAY

throughout Ohio and encourage all parents to use this day as a time to talk to teens about the dangers of underage drinking and join with MADD keep our communities safe by using the *Power of Parents, It's Your Influence* toolkit.

On this 21st day of April, 2012;



John R. Kasich
Governor

