



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of all Floridians is of great importance to the prosperity, happiness, and livelihood of Florida's children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse, including opioid use disorder, impacts every community, city, and state in the nation and opioids contributed to more than 1,600 deaths in Florida in the first half of 2016 according to the Medical Examiners Commission; and

WHEREAS, Governor Scott signed Executive Order 17-146 on May 3, 2017, directing the State Surgeon General to declare a public health emergency in response to the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order allowed Florida to immediately draw down more than \$27 million in federal grant funding through the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant to provide more medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2017, President Donald J. Trump declared a nationwide public health emergency to address drug addiction and the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, state and local agencies, in collaboration with federal and national partners, are working together to address substance misuse, including the national opioid epidemic, through innovative partnerships between public safety and public health professionals; and

WHEREAS, the unsafe storage and improper disposal of prescription medication can result in accidental poisoning and can lead to misuse by youth and others with access to the medicine; and

WHEREAS, local providers, governments, and organizations will host events around the state and raise awareness of prescription drug take back opportunities; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we reaffirm our commitment to ending the national opioid epidemic in Florida and supporting prevention and treatment programs so that every individual has access to the help they need to recover;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing October 28, 2017, as *Prescription Drug Take Back Day in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 27th day of October, in the year two thousand seventeen.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style.

Governor