WHEREAS, suicide is a tragic but preventable event that has a devastating impact on families and communities, with 3,122 lives lost in Florida in 2016; and

WHEREAS, suicide in Florida was the tenth leading cause of death and the second leading cause of death among people ages 25 to 34 in 2016; and

WHEREAS, public awareness is key to preventing further loss of life as suicide can be reduced through awareness, education, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, Florida is a leader in suicide prevention efforts and resources dedicated to reducing suicide deaths; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Children and Families is committed to working with the Florida Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council and community partners to reduce suicide through prevention and intervention;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing September 9-15, 2018, as Florida Suicide Prevention Week.

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 7th day of September, in the year two thousand eighteen.