



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, affecting more than three million people; and

WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the human brain, and can affect anyone; and

WHEREAS, symptoms and characteristics of autism may present themselves in a variety of combinations and can result in significant lifelong impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal as well as nonverbal communication; and

WHEREAS, as the effort to address autism continues, doctors, therapists, and educators can help persons with autism overcome or adjust to its challenges and provide early, accurate diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education, intervention, and therapy that are vital to future growth and development; and

WHEREAS, we must ensure that persons living with autism have access to the lifelong care and services; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month and World Autism Awareness Day in the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 2016 as *Autism Awareness Month*.



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 28th day of March, in the year two thousand sixteen.



Governor