



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

NEWBORN SCREENING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, newborn screening is one of the greatest public health achievements of the 20th century, with continuing advancements in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, most babies arrive into the world healthy, but some have a rare health problem that is not outwardly visible; and

WHEREAS, newborn screening identifies babies with conditions that can affect long-term health early, so treatment can be started, preventing intellectual disability or sometimes death; and

WHEREAS, newborn screening saves or improves the lives of more than 12,000 babies a year in the United States; and

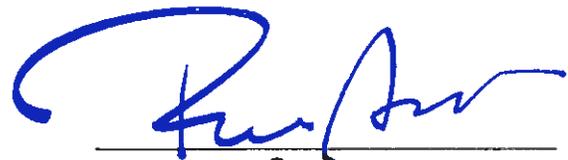
WHEREAS, newborn screening is a public/private partnership between the Florida Department of Health Newborn Screening Laboratory and Follow-up Program, the health professionals and caregivers of newborns, and most of all, the parents of affected children; and

WHEREAS, Florida began newborn screening in 1965, saving Florida's youngest citizens one heel stick at a time;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 2014 as *Newborn Screening 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 24th day of September, in the year two thousand fourteen.





Governor