



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

***IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
OF FLORIDA PUBLIC HEALTH***

WHEREAS, public health has played a significant role throughout the state's 67 counties in the development of Florida's healthy communities, strong economy, and high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the yellow fever epidemic which swept Key West, Tampa, Jacksonville, and other Florida cities in 1887-1888 brought demands from these communities for control of this and other diseases and epidemics in Florida; and

WHEREAS, on February 20, 1889, the State Board of Health was created by the Florida Legislature, with the duty to protect the health of the people; and

WHEREAS, Jacksonville was the headquarters for the State Board of Health from 1889 until 1975, and Dr. Joseph Yates Porter, a native of Key West, served as the first state health officer for 28 years, from 1889-1917; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Health, under a variety of names, has served the people of Florida consistently since 1889 and is currently known as the Florida Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Health works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts; and

WHEREAS, public health professionals continue to develop new and more effective health services and initiatives to extend life, respond to emerging health threats, and promote healthy choices for the people of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Health will recognize 125 years of public health with educational and commemorative events held statewide throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the state of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all *In Recognition of the 125th Anniversary of Florida Public Health* and commend this observance to all residents to acknowledge the significant contributions to improved public health made by the Florida Department of Health, and hereby extend sincere gratitude to the many dedicated public health professionals in Florida for their commitment to the people of our state during these 125 years.



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 February, in the year two thousand fourteen.


Governor