



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

GOLD STAR FAMILY DAY IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida owes a lasting debt of gratitude to those who gave their lives in service to secure the blessings of liberty; and

WHEREAS, a debt of gratitude is also owed to our Gold Star Families: parents, spouses, siblings and children who have lost a loved one who made the greatest sacrifice of all in protecting our way of life; and

WHEREAS, these families once experienced the anxiety of watching their loved ones go off to military service, not knowing whether they would return; and

WHEREAS, these families will always feel the deep grief of losing that spouse, sibling, son or daughter in both combat and non-combat environments; and

WHEREAS, as Floridians today enjoy the peace and security our Nation and State have achieved through the sacrifices of American citizens, Florida's Gold Star Families can take solace in knowing that their loved ones left all humanity a legacy of invaluable meaning; and

WHEREAS, in respect and recognition of the sacrifices our Gold Star Mothers have made, the United States Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 115 on June 23, 1936, designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that not only mothers but families make sacrifices as spouses, siblings, sons, and daughters now join our Armed Forces and so we in Florida believe that it is the whole family who is due our unwavering support and admiration for the tremendous sacrifices made;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing September 24, 2017, as *Gold Star Family 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 21st day of September, in the year two thousand seventeen.



Governor