



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

STOP HEART DISEASE WEEK

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of death and disability in this country and in the State of Florida, claiming the lives of more than 2,200 Americans every day, an average of one death every 39 seconds; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease accounts for over 34 percent of all deaths, claiming one out of 2.9 deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, 55 percent of men and 64 percent of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease have no previous symptoms; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is largely preventable and Floridians can lower their risk by eating a heart healthy diet, getting daily aerobic exercise and avoiding tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, men and women are at equal risk for cardiovascular disease and are also affected as husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, children, and friends of people suffering from cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease takes an astonishing toll on the economy through health care costs, lost work days, and lowered productivity; and

WHEREAS, in Florida, there will be more than 50,000 deaths per year from cardiovascular disease, and hospitalization costs to care for Floridians with cardiovascular disease will top \$18.6 billion per year; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Stop Heart Disease Week is to increase awareness that heart disease is a leading cause of death and disability in our state, to educate Floridians that heart disease can be prevented, stopped and even reversed if corrective steps are taken, and to urge all Floridians to be screened for heart disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing February 6 – 13, 2012 as *Stop Heart Disease 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 19th day of January in the year two thousand twelve.


Governor