



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK 2013

WHEREAS, children are our future, and as parents and caregivers, it is our responsibility to keep America's children safe; and

WHEREAS, every day during 2011, an estimated 123,000 children under age 13 were injured as passengers of cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans in traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, for children age one to 13, motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS, it is hard to overstate the toll taken on families, but together we can help put an end to this tragedy; and

WHEREAS, today, all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and our Territories require the use of car seats for children traveling in motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, these laws were enacted because they save lives and prevent injuries: Research shows that car seats reduce the risk of fatal injury by 71 percent for infants and by 54 percent for toddlers in cars, and by 58 percent and 59 percent, respectively, for infants and toddlers in SUVs, pickups, and vans; and

WHEREAS, we know that car seats help save lives and reduce injuries, and we also know they are most effective when installed and used correctly; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to prevent these deaths and injuries, and the State of Florida is committed to working closely with partner organizations and safety advocates to help families make the choices that will help keep children safe; and

WHEREAS, to help meet the goal of educating parents and caregivers about best practices for traveling with children, during Child Passenger Safety Week, free car seat inspection events will be held across the country on September 21, 2013, known as National Seat Check Saturday, and locations of inspection stations can be found by visiting <http://www.nhtsa.gov/apps/cps/index.htm>; and

WHEREAS, all parents and caregivers are encouraged to take advantage of this service to ensure that children are getting the very best protection by being in the right seat for their age and size;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 15-21, 2013, as *Child Passenger Safety Week* and urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life by buckling up themselves and their children – every trip, every time.



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 20th day of September, in the year two thousand thirteen.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style.

Governor