RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS DAY IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, it is essential that Florida's families are empowered to overcome the health challenges they may face; and

WHEREAS, people born with developmental disabilities are a part of every community, socioeconomic class, religion, and country; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida supports more than 100,000 citizens with developmental disabilities through services provided by state programs including the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Health, and Department of Education's Divisions of Exceptional Student Education, Blind Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation, and by partner organizations and thousands of private-sector and community providers; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has made record investments to serve Floridians with disabilities so they may continue to live more independently and find great jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed 2022-23 Florida Freedom First Budget recommends continuing this investment to help more Floridians with disabilities receive services and assistance; and

WHEREAS, public awareness and education enhance understanding of the issues affecting people with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida also works with dozens of partner organizations and thousands of private-sector community providers to support those with developmental disabilities;

WHEREAS, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day is an opportunity to raise public awareness and enhance the understanding of the issues affecting people with developmental disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing February 9, 2022, as *Developmental Disabilities Awareness 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 9th day of February, in the year two thousand twenty-two.

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Governor