



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

**FLORIDA PURPLE HEART DAY**

**WHEREAS, the Purple Heart, originally known as the Badge of Military Merit, is an American decoration, the oldest military decoration in the United States still given; and**

**WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was established by General George Washington at Newburgh, New York on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, as an award for members of the Continental Army; and**

**WHEREAS, it was the first award made available to the common soldier to recognize outstanding valor or merit; and**

**WHEREAS, following nearly 150 years of disuse, the Purple Heart was reestablished by the President of the United States per War Department General Order No. 3, dated February 22, 1932; and**

**WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is a combat decoration awarded to a member of the U.S. Armed Forces who has been wounded or killed; and**

**WHEREAS, recipients of the Purple Heart know the meaning of sacrifice in the preservation of the United States of America and national interests at home and abroad; and**

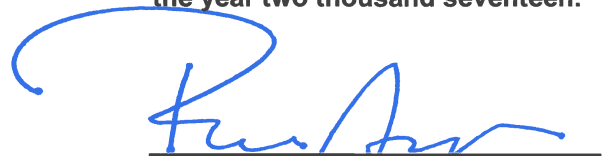
**WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.7 million Purple Heart recipients in our nation's history; and**

**WHEREAS, to perpetually honor our State's Purple Heart recipients, the State of Florida has designated August 7th of each year as Florida Purple Heart Day;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing August 7, 2017, as *Florida Purple Heart Day*.**



**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 July, in the year two thousand seventeen.**

  
Governor