



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of the senseless violence committed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, 2018, I met with students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, families of the victims and members of the community; and

WHEREAS, a tragedy like the shooting in Parkland must never happen again, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School students expressed their commitment to help make schools safe in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the students discussed with me the challenges high school freshmen face, including adjusting to new surroundings and getting to know unfamiliar students and teachers, noting that some freshmen may find the challenges overwhelming and stressful; and

WHEREAS, the students suggested helping freshmen transition into high school successfully so they feel connected to the school and friends to increase the likelihood freshmen experience success in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, making sure students successfully transition into high school with connections to friends and positive activities can help ensure their success; and

WHEREAS, seniors have successfully completed the transition into high school and can provide support and friendship to freshmen struggling with transitioning into their new school; and

WHEREAS, to help students feel connected socially and succeed in the classroom, the *High School Student Mentoring Program* pairs a freshman with a senior who can help with school orientation, offer practical guidance and answer questions about school activities; and

WHEREAS, as a father and grandfather, I know every family and parent needs to know their children are going to a safe school, and the *High School Student Mentoring Program* will encourage older students to support their fellow students to ensure their safety and greatest success;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support for the establishment of the *HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM 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 30th day of March, in the year two thousand eighteen.



A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, written in a cursive style, positioned above a horizontal line.

Governor