



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA HEALTHY TEEN RELATIONSHIP MONTH

WHEREAS, public safety is paramount; and

WHEREAS, Florida's youth and families deserve to reach their full potential while feeling safe and healthy in their communities; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2019 Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report, 8.9 percent of students experienced physical dating violence and 11.1 percent of students reported being threatened, controlled or made to feel unsafe by someone they were dating; and

WHEREAS, many teens do not report dating violence because they worry they will be doubted and that the abuse may get worse; as a result, victims are more likely to experience the symptoms of anxiety and depression and engage in unhealthy behaviors, such as drinking and smoking; and

WHEREAS, section 1003.42 (2) (n) Florida Statutes requires instruction on comprehensive health education that addresses the concepts of community health, including resources on how to prevent dating violence; and

WHEREAS, school districts are required to adopt and implement a policy prohibiting dating violence and abuse according to section 1006.148, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, as the Chair of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet, and through her "Hope for Healing Florida" program, First Lady Casey DeSantis is working alongside state agencies to improve the health, safety, economic stability, and quality of life for our children and teens; and

WHEREAS, partnerships between state agencies, non-profit and private organizations, law enforcement, health care, and faith-based communities and educational institutions can help to provide safety and resources to teens; and

WHEREAS, Florida Healthy Teen Relationship Month is an opportunity to increase awareness, and support of healthy dating relationships while encouraging Floridians to work together to prevent teen dating violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing February 2020, as *Florida Healthy Teen Relationship Month*.



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 5th day of February, in the year two thousand twenty.



Governor