



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

August 16, 2014

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to commend chefs throughout Florida on this third Saturday in August, a day known to many as Chefs Against Cancer annual Chefs Appreciation Day. Today, the National Pink Tie Organization encourages men to support the fight against cancer by wearing a pink or fuchsia tie to raise awareness about cancer. To everyone joining our chefs' efforts, thank you for supporting your fellow Floridians.

I am proud to join your efforts to give hope to our families, friends, and neighbors affected by cancer. That's why I signed legislation earlier this year, to establish the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers Program at the Florida Department of Health. The Consortium is designed to enhance the quality and competitiveness of cancer care and research in this state. The Consortium will allocate \$60 million each year to help Florida's Cancer Centers meet the rigorous scientific and research criteria required for the NCI designation. An additional investment of \$20 million for peer-reviewed research grant funding was included in our It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget.

Our current budget invests \$80 million in cancer research, and with this legislation, we ensure we're doing everything possible to put these dollars where they can provide the best benefits for Florida families. Florida's cancer centers provide patients with advanced treatment and support to beat this terrible disease. This legislation will better equip our cancer centers with the tools they need to expand cancer research and care for patients and their loved ones. We remain committed to making Florida the best in the nation for research and providing families with access to world class treatment.

Thank you for your dedication and leadership in the fight against cancer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott  
Governor