



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS, February 14, 2021, marks the third anniversary of one of Florida's most tragic days when 17 innocent lives were lost as a gunman opened fire at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; and

WHEREAS, our state and nation continue to mourn and will always remember the lives of Alyssa Alhadeff, Scott Belgel, Martin Duque Anguiano, Nicholas Dworet, Aaron Feis, Jaime Guttenberg, Chris Hixon, Luke Hoyer, Cara Loughran, Gina Montalto, Joaquin Oliver, Alaina Petty, Meadow Pollack, Helena Ramsay, Alex Schachter, Carmen Schentrup and Peter Wang; and

WHEREAS, we will never forget the heroes who risked and sacrificed their lives to protect Parkland students, teachers, staff and families, including Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School's teachers and faculty, who heroically ran toward danger to help save the lives of their students; and

WHEREAS, we honor and respect the brave first responders and law enforcement who fearlessly defended our state that day, and continue to protect communities across our state; and

WHEREAS, Florida's leaders are working hard to stop those on a pathway to violence and prevent senseless tragedies from occurring; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, I signed SB 70 "Alyssa's Law" into law and allocated eight million dollars for all public and charter schools in the State of Florida to install panic alert systems; and

WHEREAS, the Parkland community is resilient in the wake of tragedy, reminding us just how strong and united Floridians can be in the face of such devastating loss; and

WHEREAS, at my request, the Florida Legislature appropriated \$2.3 million to implement the first Statewide Behavioral Threat Assessment Strategy in the country to identify threats of targeted violence before they occur; and

WHEREAS, we will continue to honor the memory of the innocent people whose lives were lost, and we convey our deepest sympathy to the families and loved ones affected; express appreciation to those teachers and first responders of Parkland, Florida; and always remember that Floridians will stand strong in times of tragedy; and

WHEREAS, Florida remains committed to taking action to prevent acts of violence from occurring in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by 4 U.S.C. § 7(m), as amended on June 29, 2007, and the laws and Constitution of the State of Florida, do hereby:

1. Ask all residents of the State of Florida to pause for a moment of silence at 3:00 p.m. on February 14th; and
2. Direct all State flags in Florida to be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on February 14th in memory of the 17 innocent lives lost.



IN TESTIMONY 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 12th day of February, in the year two thousand twenty-one.

ATTEST:

Laurel M. Bee
SECRETARY OF STATE

R. DeSantis
GOVERNOR