



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, during National Hispanic Heritage Month, we join together to recognize the proud history and rich culture of Hispanic Americans; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "Florida: Embracing Its Hispanic Roots While Looking to the Future," showcases how Hispanic Americans have enriched the economic, social and cultural landscape of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Florida benefits from a vibrant Hispanic heritage that plays an integral role in the enriching of our society and the growing of our economy; and

WHEREAS, accomplishments made by Hispanic Americans serve as an inspiration to all who seek freedom, opportunity and a new beginning for themselves and their children; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the traditions, ancestry, and unique experiences of those who trace their family background to Spain and Latin American countries; and

WHEREAS, 2009 marks the 450th anniversary of the founding of Pensacola by Spanish conquistador Tristán de Luna y Arellano; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans contribute to our communities by serving the Sunshine State as entrepreneurs, public servants, scholars and artists; and

WHEREAS, countless Hispanic Americans work to protect the State of Florida and the nation through their involvement in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, all Floridians are encouraged to learn about the Sunshine State's rich cultural heritage and the important contributions made by Hispanic Americans to the success of our great state and country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 15 – October 15, 2009 as ***Hispanic Heritage 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 Capitol, this 14th day of September, in the year two thousand nine.

A blue ink signature of Charlie Crist, written in a cursive style.

Governor