WHEREAS, the objectives of Earth Science Week are to engage students in discovering the Earth sciences and explore the way that Earth science, or geoscience, illuminates natural change processes, to educate our citizens about the role of Earth science in our society, and to encourage Earth stewardship through understanding; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 theme is “Earth’s Connected Systems,” for geoscientists to promote awareness of the dynamic interactions of the planet’s natural and human systems, particularly the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere; and

WHEREAS, Earth science encompasses the collection and interpretation of data about the Earth through geology, geography, geophysics, meteorology, geochemistry, oceanography, hydrology, paleontology, ecology, Earth science education, and other fields; and geosciences are integral to addressing natural resource exploration, sustainable utilization, and conservation through geologic, aquifer system, and landform mapping; and

WHEREAS, geosciences provide the foundation to help us manage our greatest challenges and make the most of vital opportunities for wise stewardship of Florida’s diverse ecosystems and for sound environmental protection and conservation through greater understanding and awareness of Earth’s dynamic systems; and

WHEREAS, geoscience is critical to understanding Florida’s aquifers and the groundwater they contain, encouraging water conservation, the active pursuit of alternative drinking water supplies, and protection of Florida’s treasured freshwater springs for future generations; and

WHEREAS, geoscience plays a key role in maintaining environmentally responsible development and conservation of Florida’s natural resources to improve the quality of life for all Floridians; and geoscience is essential to understanding Florida’s coast and in maintaining our beaches and dunes that protect our citizens and visitors from storm effects; and

WHEREAS, Geologic Map Day promotes awareness of the study, uses, and importance of geologic mapping for education, science, business, and a variety of public policy concerns in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Geological Survey has served the state and its citizens since 1907 by collecting, interpreting, and providing quality objective geological information about Florida through cost-effective, cutting-edge, and relevant, job-creating, geoscience investigations and assessments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing October 12-18, 2014, as Earth Science Week.

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 1st day of October, in the year two thousand fourteen.

[Signature]
Governor

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