



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA BICYCLE MONTH

WHEREAS, the bicycle plays an important role in the lives of millions of Floridians by providing a means to travel to work, school, and parks, and a popular form of recreation, helps motivate eco-tourism and historical preservation through the conversion of former rail corridors into multi-use trails, and promotion of bicycling has contributed significantly to economic redevelopment in a number of places; and

WHEREAS, increased bicycle usage will promote health and wellness in the state and is an important part of encouraging all citizens to develop habits of physical activity to become or stay fit, avoid obesity and reduce the risk of many chronic diseases and conditions; and

WHEREAS, increased bicycle usage can help reduce motor vehicle emissions and thereby reduce global warming impacts, provide mobility for those without access to a motor vehicle, and increase existing road and parking capacity when people choose bicycling for utilitarian trips; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation and many local governments throughout the state have adopted goals and policies to develop a multimodal transportation system that supports transportation choices including the bicycle; and

WHEREAS, the Conserve By Bicycle Study conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation indicated that bicycling activity can be encouraged through effective programs and partnerships that target distinct populations of school children, commuters, and diverse groups for recreation and physical activity promotion;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing March 2009 as *Florida Bicycle 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 25th day of February, in the year two thousand nine.




Governor