WHEREAS, Florida is home to 21.6 million residents and 131.4 million visitors; and

WHEREAS, teen driver safety continues to be a serious concern in Florida and is everyone’s responsibility; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 815,000 teen drivers in the State of Florida and traffic crashes are the number one cause of accidental death and serious injury for youth aged 15-19; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV), teens represent approximately 4.7 percent of Florida’s driving population, but they are involved in nearly 11 percent of Florida’s vehicle crashes; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and its traffic safety partners continue their commitment to Target Zero, with the goal of a fatality-free roadway system; and

WHEREAS, FDOT’s Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition helps educate teen drivers, parents, and caregivers on the importance of safe driving, and encourages proactivity in the driver education process; and

WHEREAS, FLHSMV and its division of the Florida Highway Patrol provide highway safety and security through education and enforcement, and FLHSMV is the agency charged with issuing driver licenses in Florida and ensuring that all teen drivers are knowledgeable of all aspects of safe driving behaviors prior to obtaining full driving privileges; and

WHEREAS, Teen Driver Safety Week in Florida is an opportunity to encourage everyone to help reduce injuries and tragic loss of life by being focused on safe, attentive driving.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing October 17-23, 2021, as Teen Driver Safety Week.