



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

WHEREAS on December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating June 20 World Refugee Day; and

WHEREAS, the theme of World Refugee Day 2009 is "Real People, Real Needs"; and

WHEREAS, refugees are men, women and children whose fundamental rights have been violated by persecution; and

WHEREAS, refugees have made significant, positive contributions to our state; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has resettled more than 76,000 refugees under the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) protection since 1988; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has provided refugee assistance to another 225,000 humanitarian immigrants since 1988; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to be a leader in the positive integration of refugees; and

WHEREAS, on World Refugee Day it is an appropriate time to honor refugees for contributions to their communities; and

WHEREAS, on World Refugee Day, it also is appropriate to honor the humanitarian workers and volunteers as well as the communities in Florida that welcome humanitarian immigrants as new Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing June 20, 2009 as *World Refugee Day*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Great State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capitol, this 18th day of June, in the year two thousand nine.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charlie Crist".

Governor