



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

***LEROY COLLINS, JR., REMEMBRANCE DAY***

WHEREAS, LeRoy Collins, Jr., was one of the state's most diligent public servants who worked tirelessly on behalf of Florida's veterans; and

WHEREAS, a native of Tallahassee, Florida, LeRoy Collins, Jr., desired to serve his country and protect the freedoms our nation was founded upon, receiving his commission from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1956; and

WHEREAS, LeRoy Collins, Jr., excelled during his career with the United States Navy and United States Naval Reserve, retiring as a two-star Rear Admiral in October 1990; and

WHEREAS, while a reservist, Admiral Collins also was a successful business leader in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Jan. 18, 2007, Admiral Collins was appointed Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs; and

WHEREAS, as Executive Director, Admiral Collins was a fierce advocate on behalf of Florida's more than 1.6 million veterans and their families, including new and returning veterans serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, continually seeking ways to improve their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Admiral Collins was a catalyst for the launch of the Florida Vets First Web site, [www.floridavets.org](http://www.floridavets.org), to offer a comprehensive clearinghouse for the many key services available to veterans seeking employment, housing and educational opportunities for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, Admiral Collins was instrumental in securing for northeast Florida veterans the new 120-bed Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans' Nursing Home in St. Augustine; and

WHEREAS, his legacy will continue in perpetuity through the non-profit Florida Veterans Foundation, which he championed through the 2008 Legislative Session to assist Florida's veteran community; and

WHEREAS, his sudden passing will impact not only Florida's veterans but the entire Sunshine State, and I join all Floridians for continued prayer and comfort to his wife Jane and their family;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby proclaim August 2, 2010, as ***LeRoy Collins, Jr., Remembrance Day***.



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 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year two thousand ten.

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

Governor