



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

May 24, 2016

Ms. Sharon Blair  
Founder  
TheJenniferAct.com  
VIA E-MAIL

Dear Ms. Blair:

Thank you for your hard work to pass legislation in memory of your daughter Jennifer Reynolds. As Governor, I have heard firsthand the heart wrenching stories from family members and friends who have tragically lost loved ones to prescription drug addiction. I appreciate your efforts to make sure your family's tragedy helps other families struggling with addiction.

Today I am ceremoniously signing Senate Bill 12, and your efforts to save lives from overdose deaths helped make this legislation a reality. Because of your advocacy during the past seven years, this legislation will help our state agencies and local organizations work together to help patients get the care they need. Regardless of how an individual enters the mental healthcare system, that person will have every opportunity to receive the right services and support. For the first time, Florida is also trying to look at mental illness on the front end and ensure we find the best ways to support individuals before they are committed to the custody or supervision of the state.

Our goal is to support struggling families so they can recover and thrive by making important investments to help those struggling with mental illness. The Florida First budget includes \$1 billion for the Department of Children and Families to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment services in Florida communities, including \$10.2 million for additional staff at mental health treatment facilities and an increase of more than \$40 million for community-based services.

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We want Florida to be the best state for families to live their dreams, and we will continue to work toward supporting individuals and families affected by mental illness and substance abuse. Again, thank you for your hard work to help Florida families struggling with addiction. You have my deepest condolences, and I join you in honoring your daughter's memory.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", with a large, stylized flourish at the beginning.

Rick Scott  
Governor