Dear College Graduate:

Congratulations on completing your college degree. This milestone represents your choice to work hard and pursue your version of the American dream, and I commend you for achieving this goal. It is my hope that you will choose to put your education and skills to work here in the Sunshine State, where opportunities are growing every day for Florida families.

From my experience, I have seen that success does not depend on where you start, but on your willingness to work hard at gaining the skills needed for success. By completing your degree, you have made a great start. As you build your career, the skills you continue to gain and the individuals you will meet will be valuable resources. By continuing to work hard and set goals, I am confident your efforts will pay off for you.

Great jobs start with a quality education, which is why my top priority as Governor is making sure Florida families have access to a quality education. Growing up, my parents struggled financially, and we lived in public housing when I started school. After high school, I joined the U.S. Navy and later worked my way through college. I have been blessed to live the American dream, and getting a good education and working hard was the key to having those dreams come true.

As you pursue your future, I encourage you to focus on big dreams. Only in America can you have the freedom and opportunity to pursue those dreams, and there is no better place than Florida where the American dream becomes a reality every day. You have my best wishes for your success, and I look forward to your adding to the vitality of our great state.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott
Governor