

By Senator Wilson

33-06216-09

20092822

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing May 18, 2009, as "AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC) was founded in 1995 as a nonprofit, community and consumer-based organization that uses public education, policy analysis, advocacy, and community mobilization to accelerate the ethical development and global delivery of AIDS vaccines and other HIV-prevention options, and

WHEREAS, more than 40 million people worldwide are infected with HIV/AIDS and 14,000 new infections occur every day, and

WHEREAS, a safe, effective, and globally accessible vaccine is the best hope for controlling the devastating AIDS pandemic, with vaccines having played the key role in saving more lives and resources than any other public health intervention in eradicating or dramatically reducing the incidence of other diseases, such as smallpox and polio, and

WHEREAS, despite unprecedented efforts, no effective vaccine has yet been developed against HIV, which killed 3 million people in 2003, more than any other infectious disease, and

WHEREAS, results are expected this year from a Project Unity study of different risk-reduction interventions for HIV vaccine trials in the United States, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That efforts to accelerate ethical research and global

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30 delivery of AIDS vaccines and other HIV prevention options are
31 strongly encouraged and that May 18, 2009, is recognized as
32 "AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Day" in Florida.