

By Senator Gibson

6-00197A-18

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Senate Resolution

A resolution remembering the life and legacy of
William D. Brinton.

WHEREAS, William D. Brinton was born in Kansas City,
Missouri, and moved to Jacksonville in 1959, where he graduated
from Robert E. Lee High School, and

WHEREAS, William D. Brinton earned his bachelor's degree
from the University of Virginia and his law degree from the
University of Florida, and

WHEREAS, William D. Brinton interned in the summer of 1976
with the law firm Freeman, Richardson, Watson, Slade, McCarthy &
Kelly, P.A., and became a partner of the firm in 1977, and

WHEREAS, William D. Brinton co-founded Citizens Against
Proliferation of Signs in 1987 and Citizens for Tree
Preservation, which later merged to become Scenic Jacksonville,
and

WHEREAS, in 1989, William D. Brinton formed Allen, Brinton,
Simmons & McCarthy, P.A., where he became known as an expert in
the areas of complex First Amendment issues, land use litigation
involving billboards and sign regulation, preservation of scenic
landscapes, and commercial and construction litigation, and

WHEREAS, in 2000, William D. Brinton became a shareholder
of the prominent law firm Rogers Towers, P.A., and

WHEREAS, William D. Brinton was recognized in Jacksonville
and nationally as an expert on city charter amendments through
citizen petitions and referendums, and he spearheaded successful
efforts to limit and gradually reduce the number of off-site
billboards, impose term limits on the election of Jacksonville

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30 City Council members, and require preservation mitigation for
31 the removal of protected trees, and

32 WHEREAS, William D. Brinton's court admissions included the
33 United States District Courts for the Northern, Middle, and
34 Southern Districts of Florida and the Western District of
35 Tennessee; all 13 United States Circuit Courts of Appeal,
36 including the District of Columbia Circuit; the Federal Circuit
37 Court and the Supreme Court of the United States, and

38 WHEREAS, William D. Brinton was an active and effective
39 member and leader of numerous civic organizations, including
40 Leadership Jacksonville; the Jacksonville Community Council,
41 Inc.; the Jacksonville Bar Association; City Beautiful Jax; the
42 Jacksonville Landscape Commission; and Scenic America, and

43 WHEREAS, William D. Brinton was the founder, a board
44 member, and the counsel of Scenic Jacksonville, and he founded
45 three Friends of the Library organizations for the Murray Hill,
46 Brentwood, and Dallas Graham branches, and

47 WHEREAS, William D. Brinton received numerous recognitions
48 and awards, including Lawyer of the Year in 1995 from the
49 *Financial News and Daily Record*; the International Municipal
50 Lawyers Association's Amicus Service Award in 2015 and 2017; the
51 Milestone Award for Citizen Advocacy from the Jacksonville
52 Community Council, Inc.; the Prize for Civic Engagement Award
53 from the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida; the Keep
54 Jacksonville Beautiful-Jake Godbold Award; the 2014 Mayor's
55 Environmental Award; Scenic America's Distinguished Advocacy
56 Award for Scenic Beauty and Law; and the Cynthia Pratt
57 McLaughlin Medal for environmental protection from The Garden
58 Club of America, among others, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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62 That the members of the Senate express sympathy on the
63 passing of William D. Brinton, a stalwart leader devoted to his
64 community and his nation.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
66 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the family of
67 William D. Brinton as a tangible token of the sentiments of the
68 Florida Senate.