

By Senator Silver

38-1835A-98

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution honoring Edward Villella, Founding
3 Artistic Director of Miami City Ballet and
4 recipient of the National Medal of Arts.

5
6 WHEREAS, Edward Villella has had one of the most
7 spectacular careers of any American male dancer and, during
8 his performance career with the New York City Ballet,
9 originated numerous roles and introduced the public to
10 neoclassical and classical dance and the work of George
11 Balanchine through his work on television's "Bell Telephone
12 Hour" and the Public Broadcasting series "Dance in America,"
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Edward Villella was presented with the 1997
15 National Medal of Arts by President William Clinton and First
16 Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton during ceremonies on the South
17 Lawn of the White House on September 29, 1997, and

18 WHEREAS, on December 7, 1997, Edward Villella was once
19 again greeted at the White House by President Clinton as a
20 recipient of the Kennedy Center Honors in recognition of his
21 artistic achievements and contributions to the cultural life
22 of this country, and

23 WHEREAS, as Miami City Ballet enters its thirteenth
24 season, Edward Villella is exerting perhaps his greatest
25 influence as the founding artistic director of a premier dance
26 company that has presented over 81 ballets, including 32 world
27 premieres, and that performs throughout the United States and
28 in Europe, Israel, and Central and South America, NOW,
29 THEREFORE,

30
31 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

1 That the Florida Senate commends Edward Villella for
2 his achievements as an extraordinary performer and also for
3 his contribution to the state in molding Miami City Ballet
4 into one of the fastest growing and most exciting ballet
5 companies in the country.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution,
7 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Edward
8 Villella, Founding Artistic Director of Miami City Ballet.

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31