

By Senator Horne

6-2252-98

1                                   Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

2           A resolution opposing the nomination of the

3           entire St. Johns River for federal designation

4           as an American Heritage River.

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6           WHEREAS, the American Heritage Rivers Initiative is a

7 program created by Executive Order 13061, and

8           WHEREAS, Executive Order 13061 states that the American

9 Heritage Rivers Initiative has the objectives of natural

10 resource and environmental protection, economic

11 revitalization, and historic and cultural preservation, and

12           WHEREAS, an application was submitted by the City of

13 Jacksonville on December 7, 1997, to designate the entire St.

14 Johns River, a river stretching 310 miles in length, an

15 American Heritage River, and

16           WHEREAS, the primary point of contact for the

17 nominating organization resides in Duval County, and

18           WHEREAS, the St. Johns River runs through 12 counties

19 and numerous diverse communities with different environmental,

20 economic, cultural, and recreational concerns and needs, and

21           WHEREAS, numerous county commissions and state and

22 federal legislators representing certain counties along the

23 St. Johns River have expressed their opposition to designating

24 the entire St. Johns River as an American Heritage River, and

25           WHEREAS, the Federal Government describes the American

26 Heritage Rivers initiative as being a locally driven

27 initiative; however, the Federal Government provides virtually

28 no options for counties opposing such a designation to opt out

29 of the American Heritage River designation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

1           That the Florida Senate opposes the entire application  
2 to designate the St. Johns River as an American Heritage  
3 River.

4           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution  
5 be dispatched to the President of the United States.

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