

By Representatives Livingston, Arnold, Gay and Harrington

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing Dorothy M.
3 Schirtzinger, Director, Lee County Library
4 System, as Library Journal's 1996 Librarian of
5 the Year.

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7 WHEREAS, Library Journal, a publication read in more
8 than 25,000 libraries across the country, named Dorothy M.
9 Schirtzinger the 1996 Librarian of the Year, the highest honor
10 awarded a librarian for outstanding achievement and
11 exceptional dedication, and

12 WHEREAS, her experience with libraries began when she
13 helped her sixth-grade English teacher convert a janitor's
14 closet into a library and continued at age fourteen with
15 volunteer activities at a library in Worthington, Ohio, and

16 WHEREAS, Dorothy M. Schirtzinger earned a B.A. degree
17 in English at Ohio State University in 1953, completed the
18 Library Executive Development Program at Miami University in
19 Oxford, Ohio, in 1973, and earned an M.A. degree in Library,
20 Media and Information Studies at the University of South
21 Florida in 1981, and

22 WHEREAS, after becoming acting director of the Lee
23 County Library System in 1980 and permanent director in 1981,
24 Dorothy Schirtzinger began a program of library replacement,
25 renovation, and expansion, and transformed the library system
26 from eight inadequate buildings, 100,000 out-of-date books,
27 and 23 employees into a system with 11 libraries, 800,000
28 books, and 191 employees, and

29 WHEREAS, Dorothy Schirtzinger maintains a highly
30 trained and talented staff and provides accurate, current, and
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1 convenient service through technological advancement and
2 placement of facilities, and

3 WHEREAS, Dorothy Schirtzinger was instrumental in the
4 formation of the first library cooperative in Southwest
5 Florida and has administered more than 40 federal grant
6 programs, some of which have become permanent programs, and

7 WHEREAS, Dorothy Schirtzinger has been a member of and
8 an officer in many local, state, and national library
9 organizations; a speaker at workshops, conferences, and other
10 engagements; and a promoter of Florida Library Legislative
11 Day, Lee County Library Day, and ALA Legislative Day in
12 Washington, D.C., and

13 WHEREAS, Dorothy Schirtzinger served on the Florida
14 State Advisory Council on Libraries, the OCLC Advisory
15 Committee on Public Libraries, representing public libraries
16 in the southeastern United States, and the Florida Network
17 Planning Task Force, and

18 WHEREAS, for her achievements, Dorothy M. Schirtzinger
19 was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and was awarded
20 the Florida Library Association 1993 Intellectual Freedom
21 Award and the University of South Florida School of Library on
22 Information Science 1995 Jean Key Gates Distinguished Alumna
23 Award, and

24 WHEREAS, on February 14, 1997, Dorothy Schirtzinger was
25 honored in Washington by the American Library Association and
26 on March 3rd of this year she was honored at Lee County
27 Library Day, NOW, THEREFORE,

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29 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
30 Florida:

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1 That Dorothy M. Schirtzinger, Library Journal's 1996
2 Librarian of the Year, is hereby commended for her outstanding
3 achievements and public service to our community, state, and
4 nation.
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