

By Representative Horan

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House Resolution

A resolution declaring 1997 as the
International Year of the Reef.

WHEREAS, in order to draw attention to the
deterioration of the world's reefs, governments and
environmental groups around the world have declared 1997 as
the International Year of the Reef, and

WHEREAS, the coastal communities of the State of
Florida and particularly the Florida Keys are the home of some
of the world's most precious coral reefs, and

WHEREAS, the importance of coral reefs has been
exemplified by the creation of the Florida Keys National
Marine Sanctuary, and

WHEREAS, coral reefs are an important part of the
marine ecosystem upon which this state is so dependent, and

WHEREAS, as part of a fragile coral reef ecosystem, the
coral reefs off the coast of the Florida Keys require clear,
clean, nutrient-free water in order to survive, and

WHEREAS, the International Year of the Reef will serve
not only to emphasize the importance of reefs to this state,
but also to educate the citizens of the world on the dangers
which are confronting our natural reefs, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Florida House of Representatives joins in
declaring 1997 as the International Year of the Reef.