

By Representative Minton

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House Resolution

A resolution paying tribute to John Olan  
Pearce, Jr.

WHEREAS, John Olan Pearce, Jr., was born June 6, 1918,  
a sixth generation cattleman and, until his death on February  
4, 1997, a lifelong champion of the cattle industry in  
Florida, and

WHEREAS, said by some to be one of the most important  
men to ever serve the cattle industry in this state, J. O.  
Pearce, Jr., grew up as part of the pioneer-style ranching  
that had sprung up with the first wave of settlers who  
migrated into the Kissimmee Valley, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce, with his father, actively promoted  
good animal health practices and the two were instrumental in  
the formation of the Florida Cattlemen's Association, of which  
he served as president for three terms, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce worked toward alleviating many  
problems in the cattle industry at local, state, and national  
levels and in 1984 was named Man of the Year in Service to  
Florida Agriculture by Progressive Farmer Magazine, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce received countless other awards and  
recognitions for his contributions to the cattle industry and  
to agriculture in general, the most notable of which was  
induction into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1985,  
and

WHEREAS, known for his warm smile of greeting to  
everyone, whether a member of his cattle crew, a friend, or a  
congressman in Washington, J. O. Pearce, Jr., will be  
remembered as a hard-working man who loved his family and  
loved the land, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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4 That the House of Representatives pauses in its  
5 deliberations to pay tribute to John Olan Pearce, Jr.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution  
7 be presented to Marian Dillard Pearce as a tangible token of  
8 the sentiments expressed herein.

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