House Resolution

A resolution honoring the Monticello Opera House, Inc., for 25 years of tireless effort in the restoration of the Monticello Opera House and in sponsoring quality arts programming for North Florida.

WHEREAS, the Monticello Opera House, formerly known as the Perkins Building and Perkins Opera House, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 and was designated a landmark of American Music by the National Music Council on April 15, 1976, and

WHEREAS, in March 1972, as the result of action by a Florida State University-affiliated group, the Monticello Opera Company was born, a professional nonprofit opera repertory organization whose goal was to provide opportunities for young performers and to restore the "acoustically perfect" Opera House, and

WHEREAS, in December 1972, the Board of Directors of the newly created Monticello Opera House, Inc., changed its focus to place emphasis first on restoration of the Opera House, with performances to come later, and is succeeding admirably with both goals, and

WHEREAS, the Monticello Opera House, Inc., which manages the Monticello Opera House, celebrates its silver anniversary year in 1997, and

WHEREAS, since 1986, the Artists-in-the-Schools
Program, developed and coordinated by the Monticello Opera
House, has provided fine arts programming to students in North
Florida, thus playing a critical role in the education and
cultural enrichment of children, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida recognizes the Monticello Opera House, not only as one of its treasured turn-of-the-century historic landmarks, but also as a rural center for the performing arts in North Florida and a sponsor of quality arts programs which serve neighboring North Florida counties, and

WHEREAS, the Monticello Opera House, Inc., will continue to serve as an anchor to the best of Florida's past and as an achievement of both past and present, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the House of Representatives hereby commends the Monticello Opera House, Inc., for its valuable programs which contribute to the cultural education and awareness of our citizens in North Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be presented to Katie Marshall Andersen, Executive Director of the Monticello Opera House, Inc.; Nancy Wideman, School Program Coordinator; Helen Rouse, Office Administrator; and John Trimble, Chairman, as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.