By Representatives Bloom, Villalobos, Heyman, Morse, Rojas, Cosgrove, Logan, Barreiro, Diaz de la Portilla, Betancourt, Valdes and Bush

1 House Resolution 2 A resolution congratulating Florida 3 International University on the occasion of its 4 25th anniversary and proclaiming September 16, 1997, as Florida International University Day. 5 6 7 WHEREAS, Florida International University, FIU, opened 8 its doors on September 16, 1972, to 5,667 students, the 9 largest first-day enrollment in American collegiate history, 10 and WHEREAS, FIU, the first public baccalaureate-granting 11 12 university in Dade County, has grown to 30,000 students, 13 placing it among the nation's 25 largest universities, and has been repeatedly lauded by distinguished college guides as one 14 15 of America's best colleges, and WHEREAS, FIU has developed from an upper-division 16 17 institution with a handful of masters programs to a university 18 offering more than 200 baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral 19 programs, which have been accredited by all the major 20 educational associations in the country, and 21 WHEREAS, FIU has emerged as a research university, generating well over \$30 million in annual grants and 22 23 contracts, and has become a national leader in environmental 24 research, Latin American studies, tropical biology, hospitality management, and other fields, and 25 26 WHEREAS, FIU reflects its community in its diversity, 27 with the largest Hispanic enrollment and second-largest 28 African-American enrollment of any Florida public university, 29 and fulfills critical community needs through a broad spectrum of services, events, and programs, and 30 31

WHEREAS, FIU's 73,000 alumni have assumed prominent positions in virtually every field in the public and private sectors and are making significant contributions in their communities, particularly in South Florida where more than 70 percent reside, and

WHEREAS, FIU now has an economic impact of more than \$1 billion on the South Florida economy and is the major supplier of university-trained employees for the region, awarding nearly 6,000 baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degrees annually, and

WHEREAS, FIU has emerged as one of the most outstanding and dynamic young urban universities in the country and is enhancing the quality of life enjoyed by citizens throughout our state and the nation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the House of Representatives congratulates Florida International University on the occasion of its 25th anniversary and proclaims September 16, 1997, as Florida International University Day.