

By Representative Rodriguez-Chomat

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House Resolution

A resolution in memory of Jose D. Villalobos and proclaiming August 27, 1997, as "Lolo" Villalobos Day.

WHEREAS, Jose D. Villalobos, affectionately known as "Lolo," was born in Jaruco, Cuba, on August 27, 1913, the son of Plutarco Villalobos Marquez, a figure of strong conservative ancestry, and his wife, Amelia Olivera Gutierrez, and

WHEREAS, Jose D. Villalobos, with his gregarious spirit and jovial, easygoing manner, formed many friendships during his early years which would provide loyalty and support in all areas of his public life, and

WHEREAS, in 1930, Jose D. Villalobos graduated from the Institute de Segunda Ensenanza de la Habana, where he had joined the university student groups championing the rights of the people and seeking the reestablishment of the Constitution of 1902, and

WHEREAS, with the fall of the regime of General Machado, Jose D. Villalobos, at the age of 20, became the aqueduct chief in Havana, while simultaneously attending the University of Havana Medical School, and

WHEREAS, encouraged by his loyal friends and followers, Jose D. Villalobos interrupted his final year of medical school to accept the candidacy of his party for municipal mayor of Guanabacoa in the 1940 elections, a post to which he was reelected for six consecutive terms, and

WHEREAS, with the fall of Cuba to communism in 1959, Jose D. Villalobos sought asylum in the Brazilian Embassy and, after a journey through Peru, Mexico, and the Bahamas, arrived

1 in the United States on May 9, 1959, to rejoin his family in
2 Miami, and

3 WHEREAS, spurred on by his devotion to his homeland,
4 Jose D. Villalobos, continued to be active in patriotic
5 organizations in exile, organizing and serving as president of
6 the Municipality of Guanabacoa in Exile, and occupying a high
7 position in the Caballeros de Colon del Consejo 5110, Nuestra
8 Senora de la Caridad, while he supported his family as a taxi
9 driver in Miami for 11 years, and

10 WHEREAS, Jose D. Villalobos became a real estate
11 broker, attended the University of Miami, was associated with
12 The Keyes Company, and served as assistant to Mayor Maurice
13 Ferre, and

14 WHEREAS, at the time of his death on January 14, 1997,
15 Jose D. Villalobos was survived by his wife, Yolanda Duque de
16 Estrada, and four sons, Jose A., Miguel, Carlos Jose, and Alex
17 Juan, and

18 WHEREAS, Jose D. Villalobos was regarded with deep
19 affection by all who knew him and will always be held in high
20 esteem as an inspiring example of a man committed to family
21 values and the highest political ideals, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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26 That the House of Representatives pauses in its
27 deliberations to honor Jose D. Villalobos and to proclaim
28 August 27, 1997, as "Lolo" Villalobos Day.

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