

By Representative Boyd

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House Resolution

A resolution proclaiming July 4, 1997, as
"Governor Stone Day."

WHEREAS, the Governor Stone, a two-masted, gaff-rigged,
topmast schooner built in 1877, is the oldest near-shore
shipping vessel in operation on the Gulf Coast, and

WHEREAS, designated in 1991 by the United States
Department of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark,
the Governor Stone was engaged in near-water activities along
the Gulf Coast of Florida from 1877 to 1938 and during World
War II served with distinction as a Merchant Marine training
vessel, and

WHEREAS, currently owned by the Apalachicola Maritime
Institute, Inc., the Governor Stone continues to sail the
shallow waters for which she was designed, offering one-day,
two-day, and six-day charters and sail training in the bays
and inland waters along the Upper Gulf of Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the Governor Stone, the pride of the residents
of Apalachicola, is instrumental in fostering a deep respect
for the nation's maritime traditions of boat building and sail
training, and is an inspiration to boat builders, historians,
and tourists alike, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the House of Representatives pauses in its
deliberations to pay tribute to the historic schooner Governor
Stone and to proclaim Friday, July 4, 1997, "Governor Stone
Day" in Florida.