

By Representative Brennan

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing the 150th anniversary  
3 of The Irish Famine.

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5 WHEREAS, a historic man-made tragedy occurred in  
6 Ireland 153 years ago, the year of the potato blight, and

7 WHEREAS, between 1845 and 1850 in "The Great Famine,"  
8 also known as "The Irish Holocaust," more than 1.5 million  
9 people died from starvation, fever, cold, and execution for  
10 food theft, and

11 WHEREAS, the potato crop failure was an Act of God, the  
12 systematic acts of men through the enforcement of the inhumane  
13 Penal Laws, the withholding of education, and the use of a  
14 value system which favored pocketbooks over people and thus  
15 compounded the tragedy, resulting in the devastating loss of  
16 life, and

17 WHEREAS, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said last  
18 year, "That one million people should have died in what was  
19 then part of the richest and most powerful nation in the world  
20 is something that still causes pain as we reflect on it  
21 today," and

22 WHEREAS, as Blair also said, "Let us therefore today  
23 not only remember those who died but also celebrate the  
24 resilience and courage of those Irish men and women who were  
25 able to forge another life outside Ireland, and the rich  
26 culture and vitality they brought with them. Britain, the  
27 United States, and many Commonwealth countries are richer for  
28 their presence," NOW, THEREFORE,

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

1           That the Florida House of Representatives recognizes  
2 the 150th anniversary of The Irish Famine.  
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