1 House Resolution 2 A resolution commending the retirees of the 3 State of Florida. 4 5 WHEREAS, retirees living full time in Florida spent 6 nearly \$37 billion in 1997, based on a recent report, second 7 only in the state to the \$42 billion spent in the tourism 8 industry, and 9 WHEREAS, the taxes Florida's retirees pay each year not only cover the costs of their living here, but also result in 10 11 an annual surplus of \$1.3 billion, more than a billion of 12 which goes to support the state's public school systems, and 13 WHEREAS, these tax contributions by retirees lower the 14 per-household tax obligations of the state's nonretiree residents by \$260 every year, and 15 16 WHEREAS, the popularity of Florida as a home of 17 preference for so many retirees has generated an entire 18 industry that accounts for 20 percent of all jobs in the 19 state, and 20 WHEREAS, between retiree spending and the revenues from 21 the industry that has grown around them, Florida's economy 22 realizes a positive annual impact of \$70 billion, and WHEREAS, these retiree citizens make an even more 23 valuable contribution to all of Florida in bringing with them 24 25 their collective wisdom, experience, and values, NOW, 26 THEREFORE, 27 28 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 29 Florida: 30

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That the Florida House of Representatives hereby proclaims its appreciation and gratitude to the state's retired citizens for all of their contributions and declares said retirees one of Florida's most valued resources.