

By Senators Latvala, Kurth, Forman, Brown-Waite, Sebesta,
Carlton, Cowin, Sullivan and Burt

19-546A-99

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Senate Resolution No. ____

A resolution in commemoration of Bill Williams.

WHEREAS, Bill Williams, former president of the Federation of Manufactured Home Owners of Florida, Inc. (FMO), a consumer advocacy association, died September 22, 1998, at his home in Deerfield Lakes, Coconut Creek, Florida, after a short battle with cancer, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams had served as an officer of the association for the past 19 years and as president of the association since 1991 and was in the first year of his fourth term as president when he passed away, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was a tireless advocate on behalf of manufactured and mobile home owners around the state and country and lobbied and testified on their behalf in legislative hearings on issues such as the insurance crisis that resulted from the damage inflicted by Hurricane Andrew and in congressional subcommittee hearings on the significant services portion of the over-age-55 exemption to the Fair Housing Law, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams also served on the Council of American Building Officials Board and the National Manufactured Home Advisory Council from 1992-1998, and

WHEREAS, before he retired in 1988, Mr. Williams served as a National League umpire for 26 years, during which time he served for 8 years as secretary-treasurer for the National League Umpire Association, served on the Umpire Association Negotiating Team, represented the Commissioner of Baseball at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, traveled with several U.S.O. tours visiting military bases and hospitals, and was an instructor at the Umpire Development School, and

1 WHEREAS, for his many accomplishments as an umpire, Mr.
2 Williams was inducted into the Union County Hall of Fame and
3 the Shore Umpires Association Hall of Fame, both of New
4 Jersey, and

5 WHEREAS, making use of humorous anecdotes from his
6 career in baseball also made Mr. Williams a popular spokesman
7 for Delta Air Lines in the 1980's, and

8 WHEREAS, in addition to his membership in the FMO, Mr.
9 Williams was a member of the Kiwanis Club, Elks Club,
10 Toastmasters of America, and Civil War Reenactors of America,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, Fran;
13 two children, William George and Diane Marie; six
14 grandchildren; and four great grandchildren, NOW, THEREFORE,

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16 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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18 That the Florida Senate honors Bill Williams, in
19 memoriam, for his service and many accomplishments in this
20 state and around the country on behalf of the sport of
21 baseball, on behalf of manufactured and mobile home owners,
22 and on behalf of the airline industry.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
24 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Mrs. Fran
25 Williams as a tangible token of the esteem held by the Florida
26 Senate.

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