

By Representatives Boyd and Kilmer

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House Resolution

A resolution designating the year 2000 as "The Year of the River" for the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers.

WHEREAS, the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers are among the most important natural resources in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers have played an important role in the cultural and historical development of Florida and the neighboring States of Alabama and Georgia, and

WHEREAS, the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers have contributed to recreational opportunities, economic development, and the tourism potential of communities in the tri-state area of Florida, Alabama, and Georgia, and

WHEREAS, the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida can transcend state boundaries to promote the conservation of the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers and the economic development and improvement of the tri-state area, and

WHEREAS, the development of environmentally friendly tourism in the Chattahoochee-Apalachicola watershed has the potential to bring economic benefits to some of the poorest counties in Florida, Alabama, and Georgia while at the same time providing an economic justification for preserving, protecting, and improving the rivers, and

WHEREAS, the preservation of historic sites and folk cultures and the development of parks, greenways, trails, and other environmentally sensitive recreational facilities can contribute to economic development and the creation of employment opportunities in the region, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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4 That the year from January 1, 2000, to December 31,
5 2000, is hereby proclaimed "The Year of the River" with regard
6 to the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Legislature
8 encourages Floridians and visitors to Florida, in the areas
9 surrounding the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers, to
10 participate in activities to develop the recreational,
11 tourism, and economic potential of these resources in
12 coordination with the States of Georgia and Alabama.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Florida calls
14 upon communities, civic groups, businesses, and individuals in
15 the three states as well as the agencies of state government
16 and other statewide organizations in Florida, Alabama, and
17 Georgia to adopt specific activities for developing
18 recreation, eco-tourism, and heritage tourism during "The Year
19 of the River."

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