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House Resolution

A resolution honoring the students who founded the charitable organization "Clothes, Food, and Education for the Poor and Needy."

WHEREAS, during his 1998 Thanksgiving break, eleventh grader Abhishek Gupta read several articles in South Florida newspapers describing the unfortunate situation of many poor and needy families in his local community and around the world, and

WHEREAS, Abhishek Gupta, with encouragement from his parents and help from several other local Broward County students, created a nonprofit organization called "Clothes, Food, and Education for the Poor and Needy," and set the goal of raising \$50,000 for this cause, and

WHEREAS, the students, ages 7 to 17, exceeded this goal by raising \$60,000 in just a few weeks, and the money was donated to the Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund, to the Miami Herald Wishbook in Southeast Florida, and to victims of Hurricane Mitch in Central America, and

WHEREAS, support from corporate sponsors allowed the organization to keep administrative costs to zero, thus ensuring that every dollar raised went directly to those in need, and

WHEREAS, in December 1998, Lynn Stephenson, R.N., and Abhishek Gupta accompanied a medical team on a mission of mercy to Honduras and Nicaragua, transporting 120 boxes of food, clothing, and medical supplies for distribution and, for 3 days, assisting the physicians as they provided medical care to those in need, and

1 WHEREAS, "Clothes, Food, and Education for the Poor and
2 Needy" continues to be committed to supporting needy families
3 and education in South Florida and around the world, and
4 continues to seek contributions for this worthy cause, and

5 WHEREAS, the students are currently working with a
6 philanthropist who is considering giving "Clothes, Food, and
7 Education for the Poor and Needy" a donation of \$250,000 which
8 would require \$250,000 in matching funds to be raised, and

9 WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the House of
10 Representatives should pause in its deliberations to honor the
11 remarkable endeavors of this exemplary group of young people,
12 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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17 That the House of Representatives hereby recognizes and
18 commends the students who founded the charitable organization
19 "Clothes, Food, and Education for the Poor and Needy":
20 Abhishek Gupta, Adam and Diana Deitsch, Connie and Hakeem
21 Campbell, Shaun Krueger, Edward and Monique McDuffie, Laurel
22 Stephenson, and Samantha Voehringer, for the vision and
23 compassion they have demonstrated and the outstanding service
24 they have performed by raising money for needy families and
25 children in South Florida and around the world.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution
27 be presented to the individuals named herein as a tangible
28 token of the sentiments of the House of Representatives.

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