1 House Resolution 2 A resolution commending the Florida forest 3 products industry. 4 5 WHEREAS, Floridians have always taken great pride in 6 their state's rich bounty of natural resources, and the 7 careful stewardship of these precious assets is essential if 8 future generations are to benefit from them, and 9 WHEREAS, an essential component of the Florida economy, the forest products industry is comprised of more than 39,000 10 11 employees, and the vital importance of the industry 12 underscores the necessity for intelligent management of the 13 state's more than 16 million acres of forestland, and 14 WHEREAS, the Florida forest products industry, in recognition of its stewardship responsibilities in nurturing 15 16 the forest resource, has pledged itself to the continuing principles of sustainable forestry by initiating the 17 Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard, a self-regulatory 18 19 program committed to responsible environmental stewardship of 20 the forests, water resources, and wildlife, and WHEREAS, the agenda of the Sustainable Forestry 21 22 Initiative Standard is to educate the public as to the importance, and train in the methods, of protecting these 23 valuable resources, and to promote and monitor progress made 24 toward this worthy goal, NOW, THEREFORE, 25 26 27 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 28 Florida: 29 30

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That the Florida House of Representatives hereby recognizes and commends the state's forest products industry for its commitment to the responsible use of natural resources, and applauds the creation of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard as a means to this end.