

By Representative Turnbull

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution in support of the designation of
3 "Florida Citizenship and Leadership Day."

4
5 WHEREAS, the citizens of Florida are the assets,
6 government, and heart of the Sunshine State, and

7 WHEREAS, as citizens and leaders, we each can make a
8 contribution to the betterment of the entire community and
9 state in which we live as we enter the 21st Century, and

10 WHEREAS, grassroots participatory democracy which
11 fosters positive community engagement and community building,
12 locally to globally, is both a right and responsibility of
13 each Floridian, and

14 WHEREAS, a grassroots approach and initiative for an
15 annual Florida Citizenship and Leadership Day would foster
16 creative solutions to governmental and community issues and
17 recognize those individuals and groups who have contributed to
18 those solutions, and

19 WHEREAS, Florida, with its wide array of cultural and
20 historical diversity and talent, welcomes cross-sector
21 coalitions of groups to individual initiatives to participate
22 in and bring innovation to the very best practices and
23 programs dealing with governmental and community issues, and

24 WHEREAS, "Florida Citizenship and Leadership Day" would
25 provide a unique opportunity to explore Florida's best
26 practices and programs relating to governmental and community
27 issues, and

28 WHEREAS, there is a need to redefine and enhance the
29 concept and practical applications of citizenship and
30 leadership in today's challenging times, especially as we
31 enter the 21st Century, and

1 WHEREAS, the mission, purpose, and goal of Florida
2 Citizenship and Leadership Day is to foster, highlight,
3 express appreciation for, and reward positive contributions
4 and initiatives in a variety of citizenship and leadership
5 endeavors in both the private sector and the public sector,
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Florida is nationally regarded as a leader in
8 "Government in the Sunshine" and other innovations for better
9 government, and the observance of this special day would set
10 an example and and serve as a model for other states, and

11 WHEREAS, Florida in the year 2000 will be one of the
12 largest states in the nation, with increased population,
13 political influence, and prominence that will provide more
14 opportunities for leadership roles and citizen participation,
15 and

16 WHEREAS, a statewide Florida Civic Summit will be held
17 in 1999 to serve as a catalyst for coalitions of civic
18 leadership groups to promote programs, events, and educational
19 opportunities for Florida students and adults, and

20 WHEREAS, in choosing a date on which to hold Florida
21 Citizenship and Leadership Day, the designation of March 10,
22 the birthdate of former Florida Governor LeRoy Collins,
23 recognized as "Floridian of the Century" in 1991 by the
24 Florida Legislature, will serve as an inspiration and a
25 reminder of the high levels of aspiration and achievement set
26 by former Governor Collins, and

27 WHEREAS, because March 10 coincides with the Regular
28 Session of the Florida Legislature, it will afford elected
29 officials an opportunity to have a high level of participation
30 in Florida Citizenship and Leadership Day, and

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1 WHEREAS, in observance of Florida Citizenship and
2 Leadership Day, educational entities throughout Florida can
3 serve to facilitate resources and to play pivotal or catalytic
4 roles in this endeavor, especially the State Community College
5 System, initiated by Governor Collins, and libraries
6 throughout the state, in that they touch the lives of so many
7 students and adults throughout the state, and

8 WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that the State
9 of Florida support the designation and observance of an annual
10 "Florida Citizenship and Leadership Day," NOW, THEREFORE,

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12 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
13 Florida:

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15 That the Florida House of Representatives hereby
16 supports the establishment of an annual "Florida Citizenship
17 and Leadership Day," commencing on March 10, 2000.