1 House Resolution 2 A resolution in recognition of the City of 3 Opa-locka Arabian Nights Festival. 4 5 WHEREAS, the Arabian Nights Festival has been a 6 cultural tradition in the City of Opa-locka since 1926, and 7 WHEREAS, the City of Opa-locka, built in the 8 Moorish/Arabian architectural design, celebrates the Arabian Nights Festival annually to provide a bridge for the community 9 by bringing all cultures together through fun, fantasy, 10 11 culture, and history, and WHEREAS, the festival features a large focus on youth, 12 13 with all schools in Miami-Dade County urged to participate, 14 and 15 WHEREAS, it is through the cooperation of the schools 16 in the Miami-Dade County area that the festival has attained its success and community goodwill, thus continuing to draw 17 thousands of people to Opa-locka every year, and 18 WHEREAS, the festival has three separate components: an 19 20 educational component; a sports component which features the 21 Florida Marlins major league baseball team and the Miami Heat 22 NBA basketball team; and a historical component, and WHEREAS, festival activities include a fantasy parade 23 known as the Arabian Costume Parade, a historic trolley tour 24 of the City of Opa-locka, a poster art design contest, a youth 25 26 talent show, youth essay contest and oratorical contest, 27 recipe cookoff, gospel music concert, and celebrity 28 entertainment, and 29 WHEREAS, celebrity entertainment and corporate 30 contributions through the years have also contributed to the

31 festival's success, and

WHEREAS, this year's Arabian Nights Festival begins on April 30 and continues through May 2, NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida: That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida hereby recognizes the City of Opa-locka and the Opa-locka Arabian Nights Foundation, Inc., as it holds its annual Arabian Nights Festival from April 30 through May 2, 1999. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mayor Alvin L. Miller, Mayor of the City of Opa-locka.