

By Representative Harrington

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House Resolution

A resolution recognizing Edmond Wendell Horton
for his many contributions to the residents of
DeSoto County.

WHEREAS, Edmond Wendell Horton was born in Lake City
and thus began what was to become a fascinating life of
dedication to agriculture in Florida, and

WHEREAS, as a very young man on the family farm in Fort
White, Edmond Wendell Horton managed the hand-powered pump
that watered the family livestock; in Jennings, he hoed the
turpentine woods; and, in Kathleen and Lake Alfred, he tended
the orange groves, and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from high school in Bell,
where he had served as president of Future Farmers of America,
Edmond Wendell Horton was awarded a scholarship by the State
Legislature to attend the University of Florida majoring in
agriculture, while, in order to attend school, he taught at
Trenton and Lake Butler High Schools, worked at a poultry
laboratory, and harvested watermelons during the summer, all
the while continuing his involvement in Future Farmers of
America, which he served as president of the collegiate
chapter, and

WHEREAS, Edmond Wendell Horton began his career in
agriculture as a vocational agriculture teacher at Anthony
High School in Ocala, and, after having reentered the
University of Florida and earning a master's degree in
agriculture, he joined the Federal Land Bank as a land
appraiser, serving from Pasco County southward, during which
time he established a citrus grove near Plant City, today one
of the few remaining groves north of Interstate 4, and later,

1 as ranch manager and assistant to the owner, he joined in the
2 operation of Bright Hour Ranch, one of DeSoto County's premier
3 ranches, and

4 WHEREAS, over the years, Edmond Wendell Horton has been
5 deeply involved in community and civic affairs, including
6 participation as a member of the boards of DeSoto Memorial
7 Hospital, the Sun Bank, and the DeSoto County School
8 Foundation; a member of the DeSoto County Commission and the
9 DeSoto County Cattlemen's Association; a 30-year member, past
10 president, and state director of the DeSoto Farm Bureau; and a
11 member of the DeSoto First Baptist Church, the Gideons, the
12 Shriners, and the Masons, 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 commends
18 Edmond Wendell Horton for his many contributions to the
19 residents of DeSoto County and the State of Florida.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution
21 be presented to Edmond Wendell Horton as a tangible token of
22 the sentiments expressed herein.

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