

By Representatives Gay, Thrasher, Bense, Roberts,
Sorensen, C. Smith, Hart, Waters, Chestnut, Merchant, Kelly,
Lawson and Villalobos

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House Resolution

A resolution designating March 15, 2000, as
F.S.U. Day.

WHEREAS, the 53rd anniversary of Florida State
University comes 149 years after its establishment by the
Legislature in 1851 as the Seminary West of the Suwanee River,
and

WHEREAS, first receiving students in 1857, the
Tallahassee campus of Florida State University is the oldest
continuous site of higher education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, originally one of the nation's finest liberal
arts colleges for women, by 1960 Florida State University had
become nationally recognized as a major research university,
and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Florida State University was
designated as a "Research I" institution by the Carnegie
Foundation, thus placing Florida State in an elite group of
the nation's top universities, and

WHEREAS, the far-sighted support of the Legislature to
provide state funding for the development of scientific
research laboratories, which led to strong federal support for
and recognition of the emerging university, contributed to the
early success of Florida State University and continues today,
and

WHEREAS, today the university's mission statement
emphasizes teaching, research, and public service, with 16
independent colleges and schools offering undergraduate and
graduate degrees in over 571 fields, and

1 WHEREAS, Florida State University has developed
2 internationally recognized programs in the Fine and Performing
3 Arts and in Basic and Social Sciences, and

4 WHEREAS, Florida State University's Program in Medical
5 Sciences is a first-year medical program for students with an
6 interest in becoming primary care physicians in rural or inner
7 city settings, and has served as the starting point for the
8 medical careers of more than 700 doctors in the past 29 years,
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Florida State University enrolls a diverse
11 student body and operates a growing number of outstanding
12 international study programs, and

13 WHEREAS, Florida State University's graduation rate is
14 well above the national average and one of the best among
15 Florida's state universities, and

16 WHEREAS, over the years Florida State has developed
17 strong student life programs, including one of the major
18 intercollegiate athletic programs in the country, and

19 WHEREAS, Florida State University is recognized
20 throughout the nation as the dominant college football program
21 of the 1990's, with more wins in the 1990's than any other
22 Division I-A university in the nation, eight Atlantic Coast
23 Conference championships, an NCAA record of 13 straight
24 seasons with 10 wins or more, and an NCAA record of finishing
25 within the top four in the Associated Press college football
26 rankings for 13 straight seasons, and

27 WHEREAS, on January 4, 2000, Florida State University
28 defeated Virginia Tech in the NCAA National Championship game
29 to win its second national title, becoming the first team in
30 college football history to achieve an unbroken number-one
31 ranking for the entire season, and

1 WHEREAS, with a wealth of tradition and accomplishment,
2 Florida State University is a tremendous source of pride for
3 F.S.U. students, faculty, alumni, and administrators, as well
4 as for all citizens of the State of Florida, and

5 WHEREAS, in recognition of Florida State University's
6 history of achievement and promising future, it is fitting and
7 appropriate that the House of Representatives of the State of
8 Florida declare March 15, 2000, F.S.U. Day in Tallahassee,
9 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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14 That the House of Representatives of the State of
15 Florida hereby designates March 15, 2000, as F.S.U. Day in
16 Tallahassee, in recognition of 53 years as Florida State
17 University and 149 years as an outstanding institution of
18 higher education.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution
20 be presented to Talbot "Sandy" D'Alemberte, President of
21 Florida State University, as a tangible token of the
22 sentiments expressed herein.

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