

By Senator King

8-1521-01

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Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

A resolution recognizing March 22, 2001, as  
"St. Johns County Day" in Tallahassee.

WHEREAS, on September 8, 1565, Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles founded St. Augustine, the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in the United States, and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is the site for Fort Mose, established by Spaniards and former African slaves in 1738, the first free black fort and settlement in North America, and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 1821, St. Johns County, named for the St. Johns River, became one of Florida's first two counties by ordinance proclaimed by Major General Andrew Jackson, and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County encompasses 609 square miles, from the many miles of beautiful beaches to the scenic Bartram Trail Highway that runs along the St. Johns River, and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is a popular tourist destination, hosting more than 2 million visitors each year to the historic City of St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach, and its other communities, and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is one of the nation's most recognized golf destinations and is home to the World Golf Hall of Fame, the PGA Tour's annual Players Championship, and the Senior PGA Tour's Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf, played at the World Golf Village, and

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is also home to the Association of Tennis Players Tour, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, and

WHEREAS, agriculture is a critical component of the economy of St. Johns County, with its 149 farms on 49,631

1 agricultural acres comprising more than 12.7 percent of all  
2 the lands in the county and producing more than \$46 million in  
3 revenue annually, and

4 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes St. Johns County  
5 for its rich history and cultural diversity, NOW, THEREFORE,

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7 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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9 That March 22, 2001, be recognized as "St. Johns County  
10 Day" in Tallahassee.

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