

By Representatives Wiles, Kravitz and Davis

1 House Resolution

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 WHEREAS, agriculture is a critical component of the
31 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 House of Representatives of the State of
8 Florida:

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

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