

By Representative Flanagan

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution honoring Mr. William Russell Mote.

3
4 WHEREAS, born in 1906 in Tampa, Florida, Mr. William
5 Russell Mote grew up by the sea and developed an intense love
6 for all the treasures that it holds, and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Mote left his home in 1929 for New York,
8 where he founded the Republic Carloading and Distributing
9 Company with partner Ted Bartels, popularizing a technique
10 that made it practical to transport large trailers and
11 containers on train flatcars across the United States, and

12 WHEREAS, although he made his fortune developing
13 efficient means of moving cargo from ship to shore, Mr.
14 William Mote never forgot his love for the sea, and focused
15 much of his energy and his fortune to protecting the vast
16 riches it held, and

17 WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the Republic
18 Carloading and Distributing Company's Board of Directors, Mr.
19 Mote directed his focus on his first love, serving on The
20 Florida Council of 100 Committee on Oceanography and, after
21 moving to Sarasota, Florida, in 1965, working to make Cape
22 Haze Marine Laboratory a thriving marine research facility,
23 and

24 WHEREAS, for his efforts in transforming the small Cape
25 Haze Marine laboratory into an internationally recognized
26 institution, the name was changed to Mote Marine Laboratory in
27 1967, in honor of the members of the Mote family, the
28 laboratory's main benefactors, and the following year, Mr.
29 William Mote received the Gold Medal Award of the
30 International Oceanographic Foundation, and

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1 WHEREAS, Mr. William Russell Mote actively participated
2 in the Mote Marine laboratory affairs until his death on July
3 18, 2000, and

4 WHEREAS, in his lifetime, Mr. Mote dedicated his
5 services to preserving the sea through partnerships with the
6 Florida State University, from which he received an honorary
7 doctorate degree, establishing the William R. and Lenore Mote
8 Eminent Scholar Chair in Fisheries Ecology and Enhancement and
9 providing intern scholarships, as well as establishing the
10 Mote Vascular Foundation to further the lay public's and the
11 medical community's knowledge of vascular diseases and their
12 treatment, 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 pauses in its
18 deliberations to honor the memory of Mr. William Russell Mote
19 in recognition of his tireless efforts to preserve our
20 beautiful seas and all life therein, and to encourage all
21 citizens to honor the memory of one of Florida's most
22 accomplished philanthropists, a man whose life is a testament
23 to the good that we all can accomplish when we follow our
24 hearts.