

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

34-1998-02

1 Senate Resolution No. _____

2 A resolution honoring the Hearing Research
3 Institute and Robert E. Pickard, the Medical
4 Director, and recognizing February 28, 2002, as
5 Infant Hearing Awareness Day.

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7 WHEREAS, more than 3 million deaf children reside in
8 the United States, and

9 WHEREAS, more than 570 babies are born deaf in this
10 state annually and, until recently, many did not receive
11 medical treatment or were misdiagnosed as autistic or mentally
12 retarded, and

13 WHEREAS, the 2000 Legislature created section 383.145,
14 Florida Statutes, which requires that newborns be screened for
15 the detection of hearing loss, and

16 WHEREAS, this action saves the state an average of
17 \$88,033 per child and saves these infants from a life of
18 silence and disability and enables them to lead productive
19 lives as adults, and

20 WHEREAS, Robert E. Pickard and the Hearing Research
21 Institute were instrumental in the creation and passage of
22 this legislation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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26 That February 28, 2002, is recognized as Infant Hearing
27 Awareness Day and the Florida Senate commends the Hearing
28 Research Institute and its Medical Director, Robert E.
29 Pickard, for their efforts to alleviate newborn hearing loss.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
31 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Robert E.

1 Pickard and the Hearing Research Institute, as a tangible
2 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.
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