

By Senator Saunders

25-2134A-02

1 Senate Resolution No. _____

2 A resolution recognizing Brian Shimer, resident
3 of Naples, Florida, and member of the four-man
4 United States Olympic bobsled team that
5 captured the bronze medal at the 19th Olympic
6 Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

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8 WHEREAS, as a resident of warm and sunny Naples, Brian
9 Shimer persevered and excelled in an unusual sport in this
10 state which involves piloting a sled through 15 twists and
11 turns as it rockets down a steep, one-mile tunnel of ice, and

12 WHEREAS, as the premier bobsled driver in the United
13 States since 1990 and a winner of the World Cup championship
14 in 1987 in the four-man sled, 39-year-old Brian Shimer
15 participated in his fifth and final Winter Olympic Games as
16 the driver of USA-2, a bobsled team consisting of Brian and
17 Mike Kohn, Doug Sharp, and brakeman Dan Steele, and

18 WHEREAS, after missing the bronze medal by
19 two-hundredths of a second at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in
20 Nagano, Japan, Brian Shimer was able to hold off former World
21 Cup champion, Martin Annen of Switzerland, on the final run in
22 Park City, Utah, to clinch the bronze medal and join silver
23 medalist Todd Hays and the team that piloted USA-1 on the
24 medals podium in Salt Lake City, ending a 46-year medal
25 drought for the United States in a sport typically dominated
26 by Europeans, and

27 WHEREAS, as a tribute to his years of dedication and
28 training as an accomplished athlete who defined the sport of
29 bobsledding in the United States for 15 years, Brian Shimer
30 was chosen by the other Winter Olympic athletes from the

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1 United States to carry the American flag during the closing
2 ceremony at the Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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6 That the Florida Senate commends Brian Shimer for his
7 outstanding dedication to his sport and to the Olympic dream.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
9 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Brian
10 Shimer as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida
11 Senate.

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