

By Representative Sobel

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House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the members of  
Florida's medical profession and designating  
February 21, 2002, as "Florida Doctors' Day."

WHEREAS, Doctors' Day was first observed in 1933 by a  
group of physicians' spouses in Winder, Georgia, and coincides  
with the commemoration of the first administration of  
anesthesia by a physician in 1842, and

WHEREAS, President George Herbert Walker Bush thought  
so highly of physicians that he designated an official day of  
recognition for them in 1990, and

WHEREAS, most physicians endure long, unpredictable  
hours, and many must cope with conflicting demands of work and  
family life, and

WHEREAS, Doctors' Day provides an opportunity for  
physicians and patients to set aside the distractions of  
today's often contentious health care environment and focus on  
the "extraordinary calling of medicine," and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Florida Medical Association  
is "to serve as an advocate for physicians and their patients,  
to promote the public health, to ensure high standards in  
medical education and ethics, and to enhance the quality and  
availability of health care," and

WHEREAS, the Florida Medical Association has sponsored  
the "Doctor of the Day" program for many years, providing a  
volunteer physician every day of the regular legislative  
session, in both the Florida House of Representatives and the  
Florida Senate, to care for the legislators, staff, and others  
in the Capitol requiring medical services, and

1           WHEREAS, physicians daily devote their lives to the  
2 care of citizens in the state and make special and unique  
3 contributions to our society and culture, and

4           WHEREAS, over the years, the red carnation, denoting  
5 the qualities of love, charity, sacrifice, bravery, and  
6 courage, has become the symbol of Doctors' Day and is today  
7 being worn by physicians and their spouses who are visiting  
8 the Capitol, NOW, THEREFORE,

9  
10 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
11 Florida:

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13           That the House of Representatives applauds Florida's  
14 devoted medical professionals and proclaims February 21, 2002,  
15 as "Florida Doctors' Day" in honor of the immense talent and  
16 selfless service of the state's physicians.

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