

By Senator Carlton

23-1604B-03

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution commending Stetson University and

3 its national leadership and recognizing March

4 18, 2003, as "Stetson University Day."

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6 WHEREAS, Florida's first private university, DeLand

7 Academy, was founded in 1883 by Henry A. DeLand, a New York

8 philanthropist, and

9 WHEREAS, in 1887, the Legislature of the State of

10 Florida enacted the Charter of DeLand University as an

11 independent institution of higher learning, and

12 WHEREAS, the university's name was changed in 1889 to

13 honor John B. Stetson, the nationally known hat manufacturer

14 who generously gave of his time and means to advance the

15 quality and reputation of the institution, and

16 WHEREAS, Stetson University's mission of "commitment to

17 values" is a way of life for its students, making the

18 institution a nationally recognized leader in education with a

19 commitment to social responsibility, and

20 WHEREAS, Stetson University proudly boasts of 174

21 full-time faculty members on the DeLand campus, 96 percent of

22 whom hold Ph.D. or equivalent degrees, teaching all

23 undergraduate classes with a student/faculty ratio of 11-to-1,

24 and

25 WHEREAS, Stetson University provides more than 60

26 degree programs to approximately 3,200 students representing

27 44 states and more than 47 countries, and

28 WHEREAS, Stetson University is an NCAA Division I

29 member of the Atlantic Sun Conference, and the talented

30 "Hatters" compete on the intercollegiate level in 15 varsity

31 sports, and

1 WHEREAS, among other Florida firsts, Stetson
2 established the first college-level Model Senate program, a
3 prototype for the nation; was awarded the first private
4 university Phi Beta Kappa chapter; and was the home of
5 Florida's first School of Business Administration and School
6 of Music, and

7 WHEREAS, Stetson University's duPont-Ball Library is
8 home to Florida's first federal document depository, which was
9 established in 1887, and

10 WHEREAS, through the Center for International
11 Education, Stetson University this year welcomes students from
12 43 countries to its campus and offers study abroad programs at
13 eight foreign centers, and

14 WHEREAS, 74 percent of Stetson University's
15 undergraduates are State of Florida residents, and

16 WHEREAS, Stetson University's administration, faculty,
17 students, and graduates, including "many legislators," have
18 made innumerable contributions to the State of Florida, NOW,
19 THEREFORE,

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

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23 That March 18, 2003, is recognized as "Stetson
24 University Day."

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
26 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to H.
27 Douglas Lee, President of Stetson University, as a tangible
28 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.

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