

By Senator Wise

5-1847-03

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution recognizing March 13, 2003, as

3 "St. Johns County Day" in Tallahassee.

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5 WHEREAS, on September 8, 1565, Don Pedro Menendez de

6 Aviles founded St. Augustine, the oldest continuously occupied

7 European settlement in the United States, and

8 WHEREAS, St. Johns County is the site for Fort Mose,

9 established by Spaniards and former African slaves in 1738,

10 the first free black fort and settlement in North America, and

11 WHEREAS, on July 21, 1821, St. Johns County, named for

12 the St. Johns River, became one of Florida's first two

13 counties by ordinance proclaimed by Major General Andrew

14 Jackson, and

15 WHEREAS, St. Johns County encompasses 609 square miles,

16 from the many miles of beautiful beaches to the scenic Bartram

17 Trail Highway that runs along the St. Johns River, and

18 WHEREAS, St. Johns County is a popular tourist

19 destination, hosting more than 2 million visitors each year to

20 the historic City of St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach, and

21 its other communities, and

22 WHEREAS, St. Johns County is one of the nation's most

23 recognized golf destinations and is home to the World Golf

24 Hall of Fame, the PGA Tour's annual Players Championship, and

25 the Senior PGA Tour's Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf, played

26 at the World Golf Village, and

27 WHEREAS, St. Johns County is also home to the

28 Association of Tennis Players Tour, headquartered in Ponte

29 Vedra Beach, and

30 WHEREAS, agriculture is a critical component of the

31 economy of St. Johns County, with its 149 farms on 49,631

1 agricultural acres comprising more than 12.7 percent of all
2 the lands in the county and producing more than \$46 million in
3 revenue annually, and

4 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes St. Johns County
5 for its rich history and cultural diversity, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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9 That March 13, 2003, be recognized as "St. Johns County
10 Day" in Tallahassee.

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