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**By** Senator Hill

1-2362A-03 1 Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ 2 A resolution recognizing and commending Willie E. Gary and Major Broadcasting Cable Network. 3 4 5 WHEREAS, Willie E. Gary, once a migrant farm-worker and 6 now a renowned attorney, residing in Sewall's Point, Florida, 7 was educated in the public schools of Okeechobee County, Florida, before earning his Bachelor of Science Degree in 8 9 Business Administration from Shaw University in 1972 and his Juris Doctor Degree from North Carolina Central University in 10 1974, and 11 12 WHEREAS, Willie E. Gary is principal owner, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Chief Executive Officer of Major 13 Broadcasting Cable Network, also known as MBC Network, 14 America's first minority-owned and operated 24-hour cable 15 network, which is now available in 24 million homes in over 16 17 2,500 cities in 47 states, and WHEREAS, the mission of MBC Network is to empower, 18 19 embrace, and impact urban communities through family 20 programming that presents news and information, Black college 21 sports, children's programming, and dynamic ministries through 22 African-American perspectives, highlighting the positive 23 aspects of urban culture, and WHEREAS, at 7:00 P. M. on April 4, 2003, broadcasting 24 25 from the Tallahassee studios of Florida's News Channel, MBC 26 Network premiered a one-hour daily news program entitled "MBC 27 Network News" to preview its 24-hour news program "MBC Network 28 News--The Urban Voice," to be launched in 2004, NOW, THEREFORE, 29 30 31 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida: 1 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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| 1  | That the Florida Senate recognizes and commends Willie         |
| 2  | E. Gary for outstanding entrepreneurial genius and invaluable  |
| 3  | community service in designing and implementing a 24-hour      |
| 4  | cable channel to broadcast wholesome family programming,       |
| 5  | presenting African-American perspectives and highlighting the  |
| 6  | positive aspects of urban culture, and recognizes and commends |
| 7  | the MBC Network on its premier of "MBC Network News."          |
| 8  | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution,         |
| 9  | with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Willie E. |
| 10 | Gary and to MBC Network as a tangible token of the sentiments  |
| 11 | of the Florida Senate.   |
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