

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Representative Ritter offered the following:

Substitute Amendment for Amendment (759541) (with directory and title amendments)

Remove everything after the resolving clause, and insert:

That the Legislature of the State of Florida requests each member of the Florida delegation to the 108th United States Congress to support and vote to enact the Economic Recovery Act of 2003.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

Remove the entire title, and insert:

House Memorial

A Memorial to the Members of the Florida Delegation to the Congress of the United States, urging such members of

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27 Congress to support and vote to enact the Economic
28 Recovery Act of 2003
29

30 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 has proposed an
31 economic growth and tax relief plan designed to strengthen the
32 American economy, provide immediate and critical middle-class
33 tax relief, provide financial aid to states and deliver critical
34 help to unemployed citizens, and

35 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 will provide
36 every American adult with an immediate \$300 tax cut and allow
37 every American family to tax an additional \$300 for up to two
38 children, providing a \$1200 tax cut for families of four, and

39 WHEREAS, the Florida Chamber of Commerce reported that the
40 number of small businesses offering health insurance has dropped
41 from 91 percent in 1999 to 76 percent today, forcing many
42 Floridians to go without health insurance, and

43 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 provides much
44 needed assistance to small businesses by allowing small
45 businesses to take a 50 percent tax credit to offset their
46 health insurance costs, and

47 WHEREAS, in many rural communities, the lack of access to
48 broadband technology is hampering efforts to recruit high-wage,
49 high-tech jobs, and

50 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 provides a 20
51 percent tax credit for businesses investing in broadband
52 internet infrastructure in rural and underserved areas, and

53 WHEREAS, the additional costs of homeland security are
54 draining local government budgets and without additional

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55 assistance from the federal government, many communities will be
56 required to raise taxes on their citizens, and

57 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 provides \$5
58 billion to states to help communities fund key homeland security
59 priorities, including funding for emergency planning, transit
60 security, fire communications systems, smallpox vaccine programs
61 and 25,000 new police, firefighters, emergency medical
62 technicians and other first responders, and

63 WHEREAS, an additional \$6 billion will be provided to fund
64 the programs enacted in the No Child Left Behind Act, ensuring
65 that every classroom has a qualified teacher and providing
66 critical funding for after-school and summer school programs,
67 and

68 WHEREAS, an additional \$29 billion will be provided to help
69 states with their budget priorities, including additional
70 funding for Medicaid shortfalls and highway infrastructure, and

71 WHEREAS, the State of Florida is facing an estimated budget
72 deficit of between \$2 and \$4 billion, and stands to receive
73 funding, if proportioned by population, of approximately \$2
74 billion, from the Economic Recovery Act of 2003, and

75 WHEREAS, these funds could be used to fund the class size
76 and prekindergarten amendments to Florida's constitution and
77 carry the will of the people, and

78 WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Act of 2003 is fiscally
79 sound and will not accelerate current federal budget deficits,
80 which are already reaching record levels of over \$300,000,000
81 annually, NOW, THEREFORE,