



HR 9023

2003

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 23, 2003, as "Northwest Florida Legislative Day" in Tallahassee.

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida, known for its southern charm and small-town atmosphere, encompasses 16 counties across the Florida Panhandle comprised of beautiful coastline, lush forested land, winding rivers, and freshwater springs, including world-renown Wakulla Springs, and

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida is steeped in history, nationally known for its Indian Temple Mound Museum in Fort Walton Beach, which commemorates the culture of Native Americans living in the area approximately 800 years ago; Santa Rosa Island is the site of the first colonial settlement in North America and the location of Fort Pickens, where Confederate forces fired the first shots of the Civil War on Union soldiers garrisoned there; Port St. Joe hosted Florida's First Constitutional Convention; and Apalachicola is the home of Dr. John Gorrie, inventor of the precursor to refrigeration and air-conditioning, and

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida is home to eleven universities and community colleges and eight military bases, and

WHEREAS, rich in cultural diversity, Northwest Florida takes pride in Tallahassee as the State Capital, Pensacola as the seventh most polite city in the nation, and the entire area for its avid promotion of artistic and sports events, festivals and extravaganzas of all kinds, and ethnic-heritage celebrations, and

WHEREAS, with its blend of exciting metropolitan areas, laid-back rural and coastal spaces, cutting-edge centers of



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31 education and technology, Northwest Florida offers much for
32 every interest and taste, and, averaging 320 sunny days a year,
33 the beaches of Northwest Florida alone attract more than 10
34 million tourists annually, NOW, THEREFORE,

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36 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
37 Florida:

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39 That the House of Representatives pause in its
40 deliberations to recognize April 23, 2003, as "Northwest Florida
41 Legislative Day" in Tallahassee.