



HR 9053

2003

House Resolution

A resolution designating March 26, 2003, "Big Brothers Big Sisters Day in Florida."

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida has served the children of Florida for 99 years and is the recognized leader in screening, training, and monitoring child mentoring activities, and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida is comprised of 20 local agencies located throughout the state, with its member agencies working to help children and families deal with the difficult circumstances of life that challenge them, and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida provides caring volunteer mentors for at-risk children of single-parent families and currently serves 14,493 children annually within the state, with more than 4,000 children waiting to receive a Big Brother or a Big Sister, and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Congress reauthorized the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, adding Part G - Mentoring, "in recognition of mentoring's potential as a tool for addressing two critical concerns in regard to America's children--poor school performance and delinquent activity," and

WHEREAS, an 18-month study of Big Brothers Big Sisters by Public/Private Ventures of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, found that children with a mentor in the program were more confident in the performance of their school work and less likely to cut school or a class, less likely to start using illegal drugs or alcohol, less likely to strike someone, and got along better with their families, NOW, THEREFORE,



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32 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
33 Florida:

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35 That Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida be
36 honored and congratulated for its efforts to mentor Florida's
37 children to success and that March 26, 2003, be designated "Big
38 Brothers Big Sisters Day in Florida."

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