

HM 0013E

2003

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
 3 Congress to continue its support of Plan Colombia.

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 5 WHEREAS, Plan Colombia is a \$7.5 billion program developed
 6 by the Government of Colombia in its ongoing efforts to combat
 7 the narcotics industry, increase the rule of law, protect human
 8 rights, expand economic development, institute judicial reform,
 9 and promote peace, and

10 WHEREAS, citing numerous incentives for continuing United
 11 States support of the plan, the Department of State, in its
 12 report to Congress on December 3, 2002, described the
 13 significant progress Colombia has made to date and called
 14 attention to those areas most in need of continued improvement,
 15 and

16 WHEREAS, on July 7, 2003, Secretary of State Colin Powell
 17 certified to Congress that the Colombian Government and Armed
 18 Forces are meeting United States congressional criteria related
 19 to human rights and severance of ties to paramilitary groups,
 20 thereby triggering the release of \$31.6 million in addition to
 21 an amount previously disbursed to the nation, with a decision to
 22 be made within the next two months respecting the release of the
 23 remaining \$31.6 million authorized for the year, and

24 WHEREAS, in view of its close proximity to Colombia and
 25 that nation's demonstrated commitment to working with the United
 26 States to achieve their mutual objectives, the State of Florida
 27 is especially desirous that the United States Government
 28 continue its support of Plan Colombia, NOW, THEREFORE,

29
 30 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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32 That the Congress of the United States is urged to continue
33 its support of Plan Colombia.

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
36 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
37 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
38 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.