

By Senator Crist

12-1213A-04

See HB

1 Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

2 A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary  
3 of Tampa's Gasparilla celebration.

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5 WHEREAS, Jose Gaspar, according to legend, was a  
6 swashbuckling renegade-turned-pirate who prowled the waters of  
7 West Florida during the late 18th and early 19th centuries,  
8 famous for his deeds of derring-do, and

9 WHEREAS, inspired by the exploits of the mythical  
10 Gasparilla, as Gaspar was reported to refer to himself, Ye  
11 Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla was born in 1904 and thus began an  
12 annual celebration during which the City of Tampa is called  
13 upon to surrender to these feisty ghosts from the past, and

14 WHEREAS, the Gasparilla Pirate Fest begins each year in  
15 mid-winter when 700 unruly plunderers sail into the heart of  
16 Tampa on the black-hulled, three-masted "Jose Gasparilla," the  
17 world's only fully rigged pirate ship, flags flying, cannons  
18 booming, and supported by an armada of pleasure craft and  
19 other vessels, and

20 WHEREAS, in addition to a parade known for its myriad  
21 floats from which the rowdy, colorfully garbed crews toss  
22 beads and doubloons into an eager crowd, the celebration now  
23 features numerous exciting events, including a children's  
24 parade and the Gasparilla Extravaganza, and has been  
25 recognized as one of the most unique festivals in the nation,  
26 singled out for its outstanding performance in event  
27 production, impact on the area, event management, history,  
28 entertainment value, and promotional and sponsorship  
29 relations, and

30 WHEREAS, chosen as one of only two events from Florida  
31 to be included in the America Bus Association's prestigious

1 listing of Top 100 Events in North America and having an  
2 economic impact on the area of more than \$23 million annually,  
3 the fest is also renowned for the civic and charitable work of  
4 Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla, NOW, THEREFORE,

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6 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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8 That Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla is recognized for  
9 its contributions to Tampa and its surrounding areas and is  
10 saluted on the 100th anniversary of the Gasparilla Pirate  
11 Fest.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution  
13 be presented to Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla as a tangible  
14 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.

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