

By Senator Carlton

23-1500A-04

1                                   Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_  
2           A resolution honoring Stetson University and  
3           recognizing March 10, 2004, as "Stetson  
4           University Day."  
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6           WHEREAS, Florida's first private university was founded  
7           in 1883 as DeLand Academy by Henry A. DeLand, a New York  
8           businessman, and  
9           WHEREAS, in 1887, the Legislature of the State of  
10          Florida enacted the Charter of DeLand University as an  
11          independent institution of higher learning, and  
12          WHEREAS, the university's name was changed in 1889 to  
13          honor John B. Stetson, the nationally known hat manufacturer  
14          who generously gave of his time and means to advance the  
15          quality and reputation of the institution, and  
16          WHEREAS, Stetson University's mission of "commitment to  
17          values", carried forward on four campuses across the state, is  
18          a way of life for its students, making the institution a  
19          nationally recognized leader in education with a commitment to  
20          social responsibility, and  
21          WHEREAS, Stetson University proudly boasts 195  
22          full-time faculty members on the DeLand campus, 90 percent of  
23          whom hold Ph.D. or equivalent degrees, teaching undergraduate  
24          classes with a student/faculty ratio of 11-to-1, and  
25          WHEREAS, Stetson University provides more than 60  
26          majors and minors to approximately 3,400 students representing  
27          40 states and more than 37 foreign countries, and  
28          WHEREAS, Stetson University is an NCAA Division I  
29          member of the Atlantic Sun Conference, and the talented  
30          "Hatters" compete on the intercollegiate level in 15 varsity  
31          sports, and

1           WHEREAS, among other Florida firsts, Stetson  
2 established the first college-level Model Senate program, a  
3 prototype for the nation; was awarded the first private  
4 university Phi Beta Kappa chapter; and was the home of  
5 Florida's first School of Business Administration, School of  
6 Music, and College of Law, and

7           WHEREAS, Stetson's College of Law is one of the first  
8 in the nation to share space with a working court and is  
9 ranked No. 1 in the nation for trial advocacy, and

10           WHEREAS, Stetson University's duPont-Ball Library is  
11 home to Florida's first federal document depository,  
12 established in 1887, and

13           WHEREAS, through the Center for International  
14 Education, Stetson University last year welcomed students from  
15 37 countries to its campus and offers study-abroad programs at  
16 eight foreign centers, and

17           WHEREAS, 80 percent of Stetson University's  
18 undergraduates are residents of the State of Florida, and

19           WHEREAS, Stetson University's administration, faculty,  
20 students, and graduates, including many legislators, have made  
21 innumerable contributions to the State of Florida, NOW,  
22 THEREFORE,

23  
24 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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26           That March 10, 2004, is recognized as "Stetson  
27 University Day."

28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,  
29 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to H.  
30 Douglas Lee, President of Stetson University, as a tangible  
31 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.