

By Senator Atwater

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Senate Resolution No. ____

A resolution honoring the memory of former
State Senator Tom Lewis.

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis was born in Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania, on October 26, 1924, and served honorably in the
United States Air Force for 11 years as a Gunner on a B-25
bomber in World War II and in Korea, and

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis completed his service in the Air
Force at Morrison Field, now known as the site of the Palm
Beach International Airport, and having grown attached to the
community, decided with his wife Marian to stay and raise
their family, which at the time of his death included three
children, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, and

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis, at the behest of his friends and
neighbors, began his 30-year political career as a councilman
and Mayor in the Village of North Palm Beach from 1964 to
1972, and

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis then won election to the District 83
seat in the Florida House of Representatives, a district he
represented from 1972 until 1980, and during his tenure he
served as Minority Whip from 1978 to 1980, and

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis then won election to the District 27
seat of the Florida Senate, a seat he held from 1980 to 1982,
during which time he served on the Agriculture and
Appropriation Committees, and

WHEREAS, Tom Lewis was then elected to the United
States Congress and immediately put his years of experience in
the military, private, and public sectors to work as a member
of the Science and Technology Committee and the Agriculture

1 Committee, where he represented Florida's farmers, growers,
2 and cattlemen with vigor and determination, and

3 WHEREAS, Tom Lewis worked earnestly for the people of
4 Florida and will be fondly remembered for several initiatives
5 that continue to affect the lives of Floridians, and

6 WHEREAS, Tom Lewis will also be remembered during each
7 hurricane season because of his efforts to ensure that the Air
8 Force Reserve continues to fly the WC-130 "Hurricane Hunter"
9 aircraft into tropical storms and hurricanes, gathering
10 crucial data so that meteorologists can more accurately
11 predict the path and severity of oncoming storms, NOW,
12 THEREFORE,

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

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16 That the Senate respectfully honors the memory and
17 legacy of Mayor, Florida State Representative, Florida State
18 Senator, and United States Congressman Tom Lewis - a dedicated
19 family man, a tireless advocate for his constituents, a great
20 statesman, and a mentor and friend to many.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
22 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the
23 family of Tom Lewis as a tangible token of the sentiments
24 expressed herein and a lasting symbol of the respect of the
25 members of the Florida Senate.

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