

By Senators Smith, Argenziano, Dockery, Cowin, Atwater, Campbell, Aronberg, Wasserman Schultz, Lynn, Alexander, Haridopoulos, Pruitt and Constantine

14-2309-04

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution to honor the University of
3 Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, the University of Florida, the leading
6 institution of higher learning of the state of Florida and the
7 state's only university honored by membership in the
8 prestigious Association of American Universities, has recently
9 completed its sesquicentennial celebration and now, led by its
10 new president, Dr. J. Bernard Machen, looks forward to even
11 greater achievements in teaching, research, and service for
12 generations to come, and

13 WHEREAS, through its continuing commitment to
14 excellence, the university attracts the best students in the
15 state and country, ranking first among all public universities
16 in the number of National Achievement Scholars enrolled in
17 2003 for the second year in a row, ranking second for National
18 Merit Scholar enrollees for the second year in a row, and
19 ranking first among all universities in enrolling
20 International Baccalaureate students, and

21 WHEREAS, the university is home to the finest faculty
22 and staff to be found on any campus in Florida, where a record
23 \$458 million in research and training grants were awarded in
24 the 2002-2003 academic year, and where its overall
25 accomplishments and quality of education earned the University

26 of Florida a Top-5 ranking by Kiplinger Magazine in 2003, and
27 WHEREAS, the university, one of the top five largest in
28 the United States, also is one of the most diverse in the
29 number of academic programs at both the undergraduate and
30 graduate levels, thus providing the state a center of
31 education significant in size and scope to offer the full

1 range of professional skills necessary for a 21st-century
2 society, and

3 WHEREAS, its service to its state is unrivaled, with
4 its student enrollment representing all 67 Florida counties,
5 with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences providing
6 extension services to each Florida county, with the
7 university's health-related clinics and research institutions
8 serving Floridians each day, and with faculty, staff, and
9 student donations and charitable services to their local
10 community reaching \$2 million in the last full academic year,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, its student-athletic program, which has been a
13 Top-Ten program nationally for the past 20 years, was, once
14 again in 2002-2003, the top-ranked varsity program for both
15 men and women, continually produces exceptional student
16 athletes, placing a record 193 student athletes on the
17 Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll, and has led the
18 conference with 1,621 Academic Honor Roll recipients since
19 1980, and

20 WHEREAS, many graduates of the University of Florida
21 have left an immensely positive, indelible mark on our society
22 through their commitment to others, such as Heisman Trophy and
23 Draddy Award winner and honors graduate Danny Wuerffel, whose
24 efforts on behalf of his local communities off the playing
25 field are as exceptional as they were on, especially his work
26 with underprivileged youth, NOW, THEREFORE,

27

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

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30 That the Florida Senate celebrates April 15, 2004, as
31 "University of Florida Day" in Tallahassee, in honor of the

1 University of Florida's singular contribution to this state,
2 the nation, and throughout the world.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
4 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Dr. J.
5 Bernard Machen, President of the University of Florida, as a
6 tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.

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