

By Senator Lynn

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Senate Resolution No. ____

A resolution recognizing RESPECT of Florida for promoting quality jobs for Floridians with disabilities.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State of Florida to encourage and assist individuals with disabilities, including severe disabilities, to achieve maximum personal independence through useful and productive employment, enhancing their dignity and minimizing their dependence on public support, and

WHEREAS, more than 70 percent of individuals with disabilities, including individuals with severe disabilities, in the state are unemployed, and

WHEREAS, RESPECT of Florida has provided thousands of jobs for individuals with disabilities, including severe disabilities for more than 30 years, and

WHEREAS, RESPECT of Florida creates industries that contribute to the economies of local communities in the state, and

WHEREAS, RESPECT of Florida provides a valuable service to the state and is a nationally recognized model program for providing employment for persons with severe disabilities, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That RESPECT of Florida is recognized as a necessary, viable, and valuable means of carrying out the state's policy of promoting gainful employment for Floridians with disabilities, including those with severe disabilities.