

By Senator Fasano

11-1610-05

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

2           A resolution recognizing October 2005 as

3           "Greyhound Adoption Month."

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5           WHEREAS, the Greyhound dog is one of the oldest

6 currently existing breeds, and

7           WHEREAS, the Greyhound's origin is deeply rooted in

8 ancient history, with dogs looking similar to today's

9 Greyhound depicted more than 4,000 years ago on the walls of

10 ancient Egyptian tombs, and

11           WHEREAS, the Arabs so admired the physical attributes

12 and speed of the Greyhound that it was the only animal

13 permitted to share their tents and ride atop their camels, and

14           WHEREAS, the Greyhound arrived in Europe 3,500 years

15 ago, and in 1014 A.D., King Canute of England enacted the

16 Forest Laws, which stated that only noblemen could own and

17 hunt with Greyhounds, and

18           WHEREAS, Queen Elizabeth I abolished the Forest Laws in

19 the 1500s and later initiated the first formal rules of

20 "Greyhound coursing," the pursuit of hares, and

21           WHEREAS, in the late 1800s, farmers imported Greyhounds

22 to the United States to help control jackrabbit populations

23 and, because of their speed and natural instincts, Greyhounds

24 soon became the focus of popular neighborhood competitions -

25 the first organized Greyhound racing events, and

26           WHEREAS, Greyhound racing as we know it today began in

27 1912 with Owen Patrick Smith's invention of a mechanical lure

28 that could circle a track, with the first track opening in

29 1919 in Emeryville, California, and

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1           WHEREAS, Greyhounds have an average life expectancy of  
2 12 to 14 years but are retired from racing at between 2 and 5  
3 years of age with many good years left to live, and

4           WHEREAS, there are numerous available Greyhounds  
5 waiting each year to be adopted when they are retired from  
6 racing, and

7           WHEREAS, the Greyhound's devotion to people is  
8 legendary, and retired Greyhounds seem especially loyal to  
9 their owners, thriving with the constant love and attention of  
10 a family of their own, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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14           That the Florida Senate recognizes October 2005 as  
15 "Greyhound Adoption Month."  
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