By Senator Haridopolos

26-1631A-05

1	Senate Resolution No
2	A resolution honoring Stetson University and
3	recognizing March 16, 2005, 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 192
22	full-time faculty members on the DeLand campus, 84 percent of
23	whom hold Ph.D. or equivalent degrees, teaching undergraduate
24	classes with a student/faculty ratio of 12-to-1, and
25	WHEREAS, Stetson University provides more than 60
26	majors and minors to approximately 3,500 students representing
27	42 states and more than 42 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 United States Senate
3	program, a prototype for the nation; was awarded the first
4	private 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 first 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	42 countries to its campus and offers study-abroad programs at
16	eight foreign centers, and
17	WHEREAS, 76 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,
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24	Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:
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26	That March 16, 2005, 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.