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House Resolution

A resolution congratulating Tampa Bay's WFLA Channel 8.

WHEREAS, WFLA Channel 8, Tampa's first television station, aired its first broadcast, live and remote and in black and white, covering the Gasparilla Parade on Valentine's Day 1955, and

WHEREAS, a week later, on February 21, WFLA was up and running, including along with NBC's prime-time lineup its first local newscast, anchored by a radio newsman and lasting less than five minutes, and the following week brought daytime programming to the WFLA viewing audience, and

WHEREAS, at that time, NBC did not offer a full day of programs, leaving Channel 8 to fill time slots with imaginative local programming, including the production of commercials, and

WHEREAS, throughout its 50-year history, Channel 8 has been owned by Media General and has been affiliated with NBC, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That WFLA Channel 8 is recognized not only for its willingness to take risks during the earliest days of television, but for the success it has achieved within the past 50 years of broadcasting, and is heartily congratulated as the number 1-rated television station in Florida, airing the number 1 newscast in Tampa Bay.

HR 9017

2005

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
30 presented to WFLA Channel 8 as a tangible token of the
31 sentiments expressed herein.