

HR 9043

2005

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating October 2005 as "Florida
3 Greyhound Adoption Month."

4
5 WHEREAS, its origins deeply rooted in antiquity, the
6 Greyhound is one of the world's oldest currently existing dog
7 breeds, with depictions of canines similar to today's Greyhound
8 appearing more than 4,000 years ago on the walls of ancient
9 Egyptian tombs, and

10 WHEREAS, the Greyhound was so admired by the Arabs for its
11 physical attributes and speed that it was the only animal
12 permitted to share their tents and ride atop their camels, and

13 WHEREAS, the Greyhound arrived in Europe 3,500 years ago,
14 and, in 1014, King Canute of England enacted the Forest Laws
15 mandating that only noblemen could own and hunt with Greyhounds,
16 a prohibition that lasted until the laws were abolished in the
17 1500s by Queen Elizabeth I, who later initiated the first formal
18 rules of Greyhound "coursing," or the pursuit of hares, and

19 WHEREAS, in the late 1800's, farmers imported Greyhounds to
20 the United States to help control the jackrabbit population and,
21 because of their speed and natural instincts, the animals soon
22 became the focus of popular neighborhood competitions, the first
23 organized Greyhound racing events, leading the way to the sport
24 as we know it today following Owen Patrick Smith's 1912
25 invention of a mechanical lure that could circle a track and the
26 opening of the first track in 1919 in Emeryville, California,
27 and

HR 9043

2005

28 WHEREAS, with an average life expectancy of 12 to 14 years,
29 Greyhounds are retired from racing between 2 and 5 years of age
30 and, with many good years left to live and possessed of a
31 legendary devotion to humans, retired Greyhounds are superb
32 candidates for adoption, thriving on the attention and love of
33 family and responding with exceptional loyalty, returning the
34 love tenfold, NOW, THEREFORE,

35

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

38

39 That October 2005 is designated as "Florida Greyhound
40 Adoption Month," and Floridians are urged to take advantage of
41 the availability of these magnificent animals as ideal family
42 pets.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
44 presented to each Greyhound adoption organization in this state
45 as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.