

HR 9079

2005

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 21, 2005, as Polk County Legislative Day in Tallahassee.

WHEREAS, Polk County encompasses 17 municipalities in the heart of Central Florida, including Auburndale, Davenport, Dundee, Eagle Lake, Fort Meade, Frostproof, Haines City, Highland Park, Hillcrest Heights, Lake Alfred, Lake Hamilton, Lake Wales, Lakeland, Mulberry, Polk City, and Winter Haven, and

WHEREAS, Polk County covers 2,010 square miles of land, dotted with more than 554 freshwater lakes and lush nature preserves featuring rare and exotic wildlife, rolling hills, sparkling rivers, beautiful savannas, oak hammocks, and pinewood forests, and

WHEREAS, the Seminole Indians settled in Polk County in the 1700's, seeking hunting grounds and cattle ranges, establishing the village of Talakchopco as a trading center, and maintaining a magnificent plantation near Lake Hancock for Seminole Chief Oponay, and

WHEREAS, Polk County, established in 1861 and named for President James K. Polk, received the nickname "Imperial Polk County" given to the county by a newspaper editor in 1914 to recognize the county's prominence in agriculture, phosphate, cattle, and timber and for its expanding road network, and

WHEREAS, Polk County has been the home of some of Florida's most prominent statesmen who served in both the United States Senate and as Governor, including the magnificent trio Park Trammell, Governor from 1913 to 1917 and U.S. Senator from 1917

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29 to 1936; Spessard Holland, Governor from 1941 to 1945 and U.S.
 30 Senator from 1946 to 1971; and Lawton Chiles, U.S. Senator from
 31 1971 to 1989 and Governor from 1991 to 1998, and

32 WHEREAS, Polk County is the population center for the State
 33 of Florida, where 7.5 million people reside within a 100-mile
 34 radius, and

35 WHEREAS, the vacation destinations of Polk County are
 36 visited by more than 1.5 million tourists annually and include
 37 Historic Bok Sanctuary, Cypress Gardens Adventure Park, Hollis
 38 Gardens, Fantasy of Flight, Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, Water Ski Hall of
 39 Fame, and Frank Lloyd Wright architecture at Florida Southern
 40 College, and

41 WHEREAS, Polk County is the center of citrus production and
 42 phosphate mining for the world, and

43 WHEREAS, Polk County is the corporate headquarters for many
 44 of Florida's major corporations, including Publix Supermarkets,
 45 W.S. Badcock Corporation, Allen & Company, Watkins Motor Lines,
 46 Comcar Industries, Colorado Boxed Beef Company, Mosaic, and
 47 ButterKrust Bakeries, NOW, THEREFORE,

48
 49 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 50 Florida:

51
 52 That April 21, 2005, is recognized as Polk County
 53 Legislative Day in Tallahassee for the county's many valuable
 54 contributions to the State of Florida.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
 56 presented to Polk County as a tangible token of the sentiments

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57 | expressed herein.