

HR 9095

2005

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 6, 2005, as "The University
3 of Florida Day" in Tallahassee.

4
5 WHEREAS, the University of Florida, the largest and most
6 comprehensive institution of higher learning in Florida and the
7 state's only university honored by membership in the prestigious
8 Association of American Universities, has recently inaugurated
9 its new president, Dr. J. Bernard Machen, and increasingly is
10 recognized as an international leader in advancements in the
11 arts, science, and medicine, and

12 WHEREAS, through an unrelenting resolve to promote
13 excellence, the university attracts the best students in the
14 state, the country, and the world, now ranking first among all
15 public universities in the number of enrolled National Merit
16 Scholars, ranking first for the number of National Achievement
17 Scholars enrolled for the third year in a row, and again ranking
18 first among all universities in the world in landing
19 International Baccalaureate students, and

20 WHEREAS, the university is home to the finest faculty and
21 staff to be found on any campus in Florida, where a record
22 \$469.8 million in research and training grants were awarded in
23 academic year 2003-2004 and where its overall accomplishments
24 and quality of education earned the university a Top 5 ranking
25 by Kiplinger Magazine in its most recent rankings, and

26 WHEREAS, the university, one of the five largest in the
27 United States, also is one of the most diverse in the number of
28 academic programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels,

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29 thus providing the state a center of education sufficient in
30 size and scope to offer the full range of professional skills
31 necessary for a 21st century society, and

32 WHEREAS, its service to its state is unrivaled, its student
33 enrollment representing all 67 Florida counties; its Institute
34 of Food and Agricultural Sciences, including the Tropical
35 Research and Education Center at its Homestead office, providing
36 extension services to each Florida county; and its health-
37 related clinics and research serving Floridians each day, such
38 as the Hialeah Dental Clinic that provides vital dental care to
39 its southeastern Florida community, and

40 WHEREAS, the university's student athletic program, which
41 has been a Top-Ten program nationally for the past 21 years,
42 posting a program-record 12 Top-Ten ranked teams, was once again
43 in 2003-2004 the top-ranked Southeastern Conference varsity
44 program for men and women, its chief cheerleader for three
45 generations of Gator fans being the indefatigable George "Mr.
46 Two-Bits" Edmonson, and

47 WHEREAS, the University of Florida takes great pride in
48 each community it serves, from Greater Gainesville, recently
49 identified by Popular Science Magazine as one of the Top 30
50 "technologically advanced" cities in the nation, to Miami-Dade
51 County, where its synergistic effort has made the New World
52 School of the Arts a global resource for today's artistic
53 expression, to Florida's Panhandle region, where its Graduate
54 Engineering Education Center (soon to be renamed the Research
55 Engineering Education Facility) works closely with our national
56 defense programs to create new technologies to protect our

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57 | servicemen and servicewomen wherever they are deployed, NOW,
58 | THEREFORE,

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60 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
61 | Florida:

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63 | That the House of Representatives recognizes April 6, 2005,
64 | as "The University of Florida Day" in Tallahassee in honor of
65 | the university's singular contributions to its state, its
66 | nation, and its world.

67 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
68 | presented to Dr. J. Bernard Machen, President of the University
69 | of Florida, as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed
70 | herein.