

HR 9115

2005

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 6, 2005, as "Dentists' Day
3 on the Hill" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association, a statewide,
6 professional membership organization representing more than
7 7,000 Florida-licensed dentists, was established in 1884 to
8 advance the public health through professional education and
9 public advocacy while promoting high practice standards and
10 improving the professional practice environment, and

11 WHEREAS, studies reveal that poor oral health can
12 contribute to heart disease, artery blockage, stroke, diabetes,
13 preterm delivery, low-birth-weight babies, and bacterial
14 pneumonia, and

15 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association is promoting the
16 concept of "A Healthy Mouth Equals a Healthy Body," and

17 WHEREAS, in 1996, the Florida Dental Association joined
18 efforts with the Department of Health's Volunteer Health Care
19 Provider Program to create "Project: Dentists' Care," a dental-
20 access program that in 2004 provided care for almost 14,000
21 underserved adults and children statewide for an estimated \$3.7
22 in donated services, and

23 WHEREAS, in February 2005, 183 dentists in Florida
24 volunteered dental services for the annual "Give Kids A Smile
25 Day" and served 1,754 children at an estimated value of
26 \$314,257, and

27 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has developed
28 "Mouth Wise," a dental health education kit for elementary

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29 students designed to give children a basic understanding of
30 teeth, mouth, and gums and the importance of preventive
31 dentistry as it relates to health care, and

32 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has also developed
33 a "Mouth Wise" dental health education kit for middle school
34 students to teach the importance of dental health care, focusing
35 on nutrition and soda consumption, use of mouth guards and
36 smokeless tobacco, and oral piercing, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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41 That the Florida House of Representatives recognizes April
42 6, 2005, as "Dentists' Day on the Hill" in Florida.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
44 presented to the Florida Dental Association as a tangible token
45 of the sentiments expressed herein.