

HR 9187

2005

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 26, 2005, as "Puerto Rico  
3 Day" in Florida.

4  
5 WHEREAS, what is now the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was  
6 discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493 and ceded by Spain to  
7 the United States in 1898 following the Spanish-American War,  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, with a population of nearly 4 million people, the  
10 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico boasts an additional 2.7 million  
11 Puerto Ricans who live in the continental United States, and

12 WHEREAS, under the provisions of its 1952 Constitution,  
13 Puerto Rico is a self-governing commonwealth freely associated  
14 with the United States, its chief of state being the President  
15 of the United States of America and its head of government being  
16 an elected governor, and

17 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico, whose people enjoy a richly diverse  
18 cultural and racial heritage, has one of the most dynamic  
19 economies in the Caribbean region, with exports and imports  
20 nearly doubling between 1987 and 1997, and the lush climate of  
21 the island creates agricultural opportunities for exporting  
22 sugarcane, coffee, pineapples, plantains, bananas, and rum, and

23 WHEREAS, the State of Florida promotes the enhancement of  
24 trade, business, and cultural exchanges with the Commonwealth of  
25 Puerto Rico, NOW, THEREFORE,

26  
27 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
28 Florida:

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That the House of Representatives recognizes April 26, 2005, as "Puerto Rico Day" in Florida, expresses its appreciation of the Commonwealth's rich heritage, and extends its best wishes for an increasingly bright future.