

By Senator Dockery

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 11, 2006, 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, 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 1700s seeking hunting grounds and cattle ranges, and  
established the village of Talakchopco near modern-day Fort  
Meade as a trading post, and

WHEREAS, Seminole Chief Oponay kept a magnificent  
plantation near Lake Hancock, and

WHEREAS, Polk County, named for President James K.  
Polk, was established in 1861 and later nicknamed "Imperial  
Polk County" in 1914 by a newspaper editor in recognition of  
the county's expanding network of roads and its prominence in  
agriculture, phosphate, cattle, and timber, and

WHEREAS, Polk County was home to three of Florida's  
most prominent statesmen, Park Trammel, Governor of Florida  
from 1913 to 1917 and a United States Senator from 1917 to  
1936; Spessard Holland, Governor from 1941 to 1945 and U.S.  
Senator from 1946 to 1971; and Lawton Chiles, U.S. Senator  
from 1971 to 1989 and Governor from 1991 to 1998, and

1           WHEREAS, Polk County is a Florida population center in  
2 which 7.5 million people reside within a 100-mile radius, and

3           WHEREAS, the vacation destinations of Polk County are  
4 visited by more than 1.5 million tourists annually and include  
5 the Historic Bok Sanctuary, Cypress Gardens Adventure Park,  
6 Hollis Gardens, Fantasy of Flight, Sun'N Fun Fly In, the Water  
7 Ski Hall of Fame, and the Frank Lloyd Wright architecture at  
8 Florida Southern College, and

9           WHEREAS, Polk County is the center of citrus production  
10 and phosphate mining for the world, and

11           WHEREAS, Polk County is the corporate headquarters for  
12 many of Florida's major corporations, including Publix Super  
13 Markets, W.S. Badcock Corporation, Mosaic, and ButterKrust  
14 Bakeries, NOW, THEREFORE,

15  
16 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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18           That the Florida Senate recognizes April 11, 2006, as  
19 Polk County Legislative Day in Tallahassee.  
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