

HR 9095

2006

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating the 2006-2007 school year as
3 "Healthy School Lunch Year" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, all children, regardless of ethnic, racial, or
6 religious background, are entitled to a healthy meal each day at
7 school in compliance with the mandate of the National School
8 Lunch Program, and

9 WHEREAS, a disproportionate rise in poor health indicators,
10 including obesity, risk for heart disease, diagnoses of cancer,
11 and adult onset diabetes, are linked to diet, and a significant
12 percentage of children who rely on free or reduced-price school
13 lunches are considered at risk for these diet-related
14 degenerative diseases, and

15 WHEREAS, recent studies indicate that more than one-fourth
16 of Florida's children are overweight or obese and are therefore
17 at higher risk of developing these health problems, and

18 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American
19 Cancer Society, the American Dietetic Association, the American
20 Diabetes Association, the American Heart Association, the United
21 States Department of Agriculture, and the National Institutes of
22 Health recommend a greater emphasis in the American diet on
23 fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and legumes, which contain
24 fiber and essential nutrients, including vitamins and minerals,
25 but are low in fat and calories and contain no cholesterol, and

26 WHEREAS, the USDA's Team Nutrition program has stated that
27 less than 15 percent of children eat the minimum daily
28 recommended servings of fruit, 35 percent eat no fruit on a

HR 9095

2006

29 | given day, only 17 percent consume the minimum daily recommended
30 | servings of vegetables, and 20 percent eat no vegetables on a
31 | given day, and exposure to vegetarian entrees in the school
32 | cafeteria would positively influence children with poor eating
33 | habits, and

34 | WHEREAS, school children who identify themselves as
35 | vegetarian or vegan or are from families who avoid meat and
36 | dairy foods may be at a disadvantage if no appropriate school
37 | lunch meals are offered in their respective schools, NOW,
38 | THEREFORE,

39 |

40 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
41 | Florida:

42 |

43 | That the House of Representatives designates the 2006-2007
44 | school year as "Healthy School Lunch Year" in Florida, a year in
45 | which all school districts and parents of school children in the
46 | state are urged to emphasize the importance of and to provide
47 | daily diets consisting of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and
48 | legumes, including regular vegetarian entrée options.

49 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives
50 | encourages each school district to observe a "Healthy School
51 | Lunch Celebration" on May 1, 2007, to honor food service workers
52 | for their contributions to the school children of Florida.