

By Senator Wise

5-1462-07

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the role of associations in Florida's economy and proclaiming March 21, 2007, as "Associations Advance Florida Day."

WHEREAS, associations originated with the guilds of medieval times and have developed into one of the largest and most powerful forces in the United States today, and

WHEREAS, associations are filled with people who find strength in numbers and share common interests of industries, professions, charities, hobbies, and philanthropic action, and

WHEREAS, associations are founded upon the principles of democracy, volunteerism, and the common interest which are at the heart of the American experience, and

WHEREAS, associations share the goals of helping their members and advancing society, and

WHEREAS, associations represent an enormous collective presence, their work is woven throughout the fabric of society, and the public has come to depend on the social and economic benefits that associations afford, and

WHEREAS, the estimate of the direct economic value of associations to the State of Florida is over \$1.2 billion annually, including payroll, rent and mortgagee expenses, transportation, printing, office supplies, postage, lodging and facility accommodations, and educational programs, and

WHEREAS, the association community in Florida provides nearly 50,000 professional positions and accommodates more than 2 million meeting attendees, adding to nearly three-quarters of hotel meeting revenue in the State of Florida, and

1 WHEREAS, associations pay nearly \$100 million in taxes
2 each year and association staff and members donate more than
3 10 million hours of service to their associations and
4 communities each year, NOW, THEREFORE,

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6 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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8 That in recognition of the role of associations in
9 Florida's economy, the Florida Senate proudly proclaims March
10 21, 2007, as "Associations Advance Florida Day."

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