

By Senator Lawson

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 17, 2007, as
"Community Action Day" in the State of Florida.

WHEREAS, community-action agencies were created to
fight the War on Poverty when the Economic Opportunity Act of
1964 was signed into law, and

WHEREAS, community-action agencies comprise America's
Poverty-Fighting Network and have a 40-year history of
promoting self-sufficiency for low-income families, children,
and individuals, and

WHEREAS, there are more than 1,000 community-action
agencies nationally, with 30 operational community-action
agencies serving low-income families, children, and
individuals throughout 65 counties in this state, and

WHEREAS, the percentage of poor Americans living in
poverty has reportedly reached a 32-year high, with millions
of working Americans falling closer to the poverty line, and

WHEREAS, a recent analysis of the 2005 census found
that nearly 16 million Americans are living in deep or severe
poverty, and Florida ranks number four in states having the
most people in severe poverty, and

WHEREAS, this state's community-action agencies made an
essential contribution to low-income families, children, and
individuals by providing services to 307,275 individuals and
128,003 families in 2005, and

WHEREAS, this state's community-action agencies provide
innovative and cost-effective programs to low-income families
who need opportunities to improve their lives and their living
conditions, thus helping to ensure that all individuals are
able to live in dignity, and

1 WHEREAS, this state and the entire United States must
2 continue to wage the War on Poverty by providing support and
3 opportunities for all individuals in need of assistance, NOW,
4 THEREFORE,

5
6 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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8 That the Florida Senate commends the dedication and
9 contributions of this state's community-action agencies and
10 recognizes April 17, 2007, as "Community Action Day" in the
11 State of Florida.

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