

By Senator Webster

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## Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring former Senate President Toni Jennings and designating Room 110 of the Senate Office Building as the "Toni Jennings Committee Room."

WHEREAS, Toni Jennings, the first woman to hold the office of Lieutenant Governor of Florida, used her extensive public-sector experience and her knowledge of business gained as president of a successful family-owned construction company to support development of the state's key economic initiatives, quality education, and strengthening families, and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Toni Jennings was the youngest woman ever elected to the Florida Legislature and the first female Republican Leader of either house of the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, a two-term Member of the House of Representatives until her election to the Senate, Senator Jennings represented Central Florida in the Legislature for almost 25 years, during which time she became the state's first and only two-term Senate President and distinguished herself as a skilled consensus builder, and

WHEREAS, she was a force behind the state's welfare reform initiative, creating a system of accountability in public education, championing workers' compensation reforms, launching school readiness programs and shepherding the passage of the Workforce Innovation Act of 2000, and

WHEREAS, during her term as Lieutenant Governor, Toni Jennings' strong business acumen and years of public service contributed greatly to several key initiatives, including affordable health insurance, pre-kindergarten education,

1 hurricane preparedness, property and casualty insurance  
2 reform, and the future of space and aeronautics in the state,  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Toni Jennings' distinguished public career  
5 spanning almost 30 years has earned her numerous awards and  
6 recognitions including induction into the Florida Women's Hall  
7 of Fame, the "Friend of Education" award, "Central Floridian  
8 of the Year" for her hurricane recovery efforts, the William  
9 L. Heartwell Award for workforce education and training  
10 advocacy, and honored as "Florida Guardian of Small Business",  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, Toni Jennings continues her participation in  
13 civic affairs and dedication to education, as expressed in her  
14 frequent visits to schools, inspiring teachers and students  
15 alike, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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19           That the Senate hereby expresses to the Honorable Toni  
20 Jennings, former Lieutenant Governor of Florida, two-term  
21 Florida Senate President, and member of the Florida Senate and  
22 House of Representatives, its high esteem and heartfelt  
23 appreciation, and honors her great public service to this  
24 state by designating Room 110 of the Senate Office Building as  
25 the "Toni Jennings Committee Room."

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate  
27 is directed to place suitable markers designating Room 110 of  
28 the Senate Office Building as the "Toni Jennings Committee  
29 Room."

30           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,  
31 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Toni

1 Jennings as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida  
2 Senate.  
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