

By Senator Jones

13-02867-08

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing January 12, 2008, as the 20th Anniversary of the Florida Lottery's efforts in supporting education and Bright Futures Scholarships for Florida students.

WHEREAS, the Florida Lottery was created in 1986 pursuant to a constitutional amendment that passed by a two-to-one margin, and

WHEREAS, voters gave their approval to create a lottery that uses all its proceeds to enhance public education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, on January 12, 1988, Florida Lottery ticket sales began 6 days ahead of schedule with the launch of the first Scratch-Off game, "MILLIONAIRE," which generated more than \$95 million in sales during its first week and set a record in the lottery industry, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Florida Lottery is to maximize revenues in a manner consonant with the dignity of the state and the welfare of the public, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Lottery is a multibillion-dollar state revenue resource in which customer value, public trust, and an unwavering commitment to the enhancement of public education are cultivated and celebrated with honesty, creativity, and diversity, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Lottery has consistently remained a reliable contributor to education in the state, having more than tripled its average monthly contribution to the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund since its first transfer of funds in February 1988, and

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30 WHEREAS, the Florida Lottery transferred \$1.26 billion in
31 the 2006-2007 fiscal year, and has transferred more than \$1
32 billion in each of the last 5 consecutive fiscal years, and

33 WHEREAS, since its inception, the Florida Lottery has
34 transferred a total of more than \$18 billion to the Educational
35 Enhancement Trust Fund, and

36 WHEREAS, dollars from the Florida Lottery reach every level
37 of public education in the state, contributing to K-12 programs
38 in Florida's 67 school districts, to the building and renovation
39 of schools throughout the state, and to funding for state
40 universities and community colleges, as well as fully funding
41 more than one million Bright Futures Scholarships to date, NOW,
42 THEREFORE,

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

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46 That the Florida Senate recognizes January 12, 2008, as the
47 20th Anniversary of the Florida Lottery's continuing support for
48 education and its full funding of the Bright Futures Scholarship
49 Program to benefit Florida students, and wholeheartedly supports
50 the efforts and vision of the Florida Lottery.