

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 17, 2008, as "Jackson Health System Appreciation Day."

WHEREAS, on June 25, 1918, Jackson Memorial Hospital opened its doors as the City of Miami's first charity care hospital, and

WHEREAS, today, 90 years later, though it still remains the county's only charity care "safety-net" hospital, Jackson Memorial Hospital has evolved into Jackson Health System, an integrated healthcare delivery system with more than 11,000 employees that provides medical services to residents of Miami-Dade County, regardless of their ability to pay, and

WHEREAS, Jackson Health System currently consists of 12 primary care centers, 16 school-based clinics, two long-term care nursing facilities, an outpatient diagnostic center, a children's hospital, a rehabilitation hospital, two community hospitals, and the system's centerpiece, the regional referral, tertiary care Jackson Memorial Hospital, which is the primary teaching hospital of the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, and

WHEREAS, Jackson Health System is made up of five hospitals: Jackson Memorial Hospital, Holtz Children's Hospital, Jackson South Community Hospital, Jackson North Medical Center, and Jackson Rehabilitation Hospital, and

WHEREAS, Jackson Memorial Hospital, the system's flagship hospital with 1,498 beds, is the third-largest teaching hospital in the United States through an academic affiliation with the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, and is also a training center for

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30 | physicians and other healthcare professionals from around
31 | the world, and

32 | WHEREAS, Holtz Children's Hospital is one of the
33 | largest children's hospitals in the southeast United
34 | States, one of three centers in the country that specialize
35 | in pediatric multi-organ transplants, home to one of the
36 | largest neonatal intensive care units in the United States,
37 | and has more pediatric physicians on the "Best Doctors in
38 | America" list than any other children's hospital in South
39 | Florida, and

40 | WHEREAS, Jackson South Community Hospital is a 199-bed
41 | acute-care hospital located in south Miami-Dade County,
42 | designed specifically for patient comfort and convenience
43 | with state-of-the-art technology, leading-edge treatments
44 | and services, and a wide array of specialties and
45 | subspecialties practiced by nationally respected, board-
46 | certified physicians and healthcare professionals, and

47 | WHEREAS, Jackson North Medical Center is a 382-bed,
48 | acute-care, community hospital serving the residents of
49 | north Miami-Dade and south Broward counties which offers a
50 | variety of services including 24-hour adult and pediatric
51 | emergency care, maternity care, and rehabilitation, and is
52 | also home to specialized centers such as the Wound Care
53 | Center, the Center for Mental Health, and the Pain & Spine
54 | Institute, and

55 | WHEREAS, Jackson Rehabilitation Hospital is a state-
56 | designated facility for its Brain & Spinal Cord Injury
57 | Program and offers additional services that include

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58 | treatment programs for medical rehabilitation, burns, and
59 | hand injuries, and

60 | WHEREAS, Jackson Health System also offers health care
61 | through 12 primary care centers, the remote "Care-A-Van"
62 | program, school-based care delivered in 16 school-based
63 | clinics venues and initiatives, and the Jackson Health
64 | System Primary Care Initiative, and

65 | WHEREAS, the innumerable accolades received by, and the
66 | remarkable accomplishments of, member institutions of the Jackson
67 | Health System, are truly voluminous, and

68 | WHEREAS, in 2007, Jackson Health System spent nearly \$500
69 | million on charity care, a level that is among the highest in the
70 | nation, and

71 | WHEREAS, the University of Miami Miller School of
72 | Medicine and Jackson Memorial Hospital have consistently
73 | ranked in U.S. News & World Report among "America's Best
74 | Hospitals," and

75 | WHEREAS, in 2007, the University of Miami/Jackson
76 | Memorial Hospital was ranked in four different specialties:
77 | ophthalmology; ear, nose and throat; digestive disorders;
78 | and kidney disease, and has more ranked specialties than
79 | any other hospital in South Florida, and

80 | WHEREAS, the Ryder Trauma Center, located at the
81 | University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center, is the
82 | only adult and pediatric Level 1 Trauma Center in Miami-
83 | Dade County, is one of the busiest trauma centers in the
84 | nation, and is the only trauma center chosen by the United
85 | States Army to train its military surgical teams before
86 | being deployed to areas of conflict, and

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87 WHEREAS, Holtz Children's Hospital's 126-bed Newborn
88 Special Care Center is also a regional referral facility
89 that is home to a 66-bed, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care
90 Unit, which is the largest in Florida, and

91 WHEREAS, the Transplant Center, located at the
92 University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center, is
93 ranked among the busiest in the nation, and Jackson
94 Memorial Hospital is the only Florida hospital to perform
95 every kind of solid organ transplantation, with more than
96 half of the world's reported multi-organ transplants having
97 been performed there, and

98 WHEREAS, the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Burn
99 Center has been one of the nation's leading burn treatment
100 facilities since its founding in the 1960s and is the only
101 such center in Miami-Dade County, and

102 WHEREAS, Jackson Health System has recently affiliated with
103 the newly created Florida International University's School of
104 Medicine, and

105 WHEREAS, as is obvious, the vast scope and superlative
106 quality of health care provided to the citizens of South Florida
107 by Jackson Health System is of incalculable benefit, not only to
108 area residents directly served by Jackson Health System but to
109 the State of Florida as a whole, and constitutes a level of care
110 rarely found elsewhere in the nation, and

111 WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that on this, the
112 90th anniversary of the founding of Jackson Memorial Hospital,
113 the citizens of the state should recognize Jackson Health System
114 for its astounding growth, achievements, and service to the
115 people of the State of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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119 That in celebration of Jackson Memorial Hospital's 90 years
120 of continued service to the residents of Miami-Dade County, April
121 17, 2008, is recognized as "Jackson Health System Appreciation
122 Day."

123 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
124 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Marvin O'Quinn,
125 president of the Public Health Trust and chief executive officer
126 of Jackson Health System, as a tangible token of the sentiments
127 of the Florida Senate.