

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to official state designations; creating
 3 s. 15.0495, F.S.; designating the anthem "Oh Florida, My
 4 Sweet Home," as the official state anthem; providing an
 5 effective date.

6
 7 WHEREAS, the designation of an official state anthem is not
 8 intended to diminish in any way the historical value or to
 9 remove or supersede the designation of "The Suwannee River (Old
 10 Folks at Home)" by Stephen C. Foster as the state song or the
 11 designation of any future state song, and

12 WHEREAS, a state anthem is an official work of music
 13 dedicated to our great state and showing a sense of pride in the
 14 many special attributes of Florida and its people, and

15 WHEREAS, a state anthem, like the national anthem, is
 16 intended to be performed at public events or venues to provide a
 17 declaration of the unique characteristics of our state and its
 18 citizens and to publicly and collectively declare our pride in
 19 the state we hold so dear, NOW, THEREFORE,

20
 21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

22
 23 Section 1. Section 15.0495, Florida Statutes, is created
 24 to read:

25 15.0495 Official state anthem.--The anthem "Oh Florida, My
 26 Sweet Home," music and lyrics written by Graham W. Fountain and
 27 Warren L. Halstrom, is hereby designated as the official state
 28 anthem.

HB 463

2008

29

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.