

HR 9093

2008

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution honoring the Haitian soldiers of the
3 Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue for their bravery
4 and sacrifices in support of the United States of America
5 during its War of Independence.
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7 WHEREAS, in the fall of 1779, over 500 Haitian soldiers
8 formed the Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue and joined
9 other international forces supporting the United States in its
10 fight for independence from British sovereignty, and

11 WHEREAS, the soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires de
12 Saint-Domingue served as the largest unit of soldiers of African
13 descent to fight in the American War of Independence, and

14 WHEREAS, the soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires de
15 Saint-Domingue participated in the siege of Savannah, Georgia,
16 which took six weeks and was one of the most culturally diverse
17 battles of the War of Independence, fighting bravely in both the
18 battle of September 24th and in the unsuccessful final siege of
19 October 9th of 1779, and

20 WHEREAS, eight months later, over sixty members of the
21 Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue were captured at the
22 fall of Charleston, South Carolina, and

23 WHEREAS, many of the soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires
24 de Saint-Domingue lost their lives or their freedom attempting
25 to help drive the British from the United States, and

26 WHEREAS, it is worthy of special commemoration that the
27 Chasseurs-Volontaires de Saint-Domingue consisted entirely of
28 free men who volunteered to fight against British sovereignty in

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29 | support of the ideas of individual liberty and self-governance
30 | as embodied in the War of Independence, NOW, THEREFORE,

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32 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
33 | Florida:

34 |

35 | That the Haitian soldiers of the Chasseurs-Volontaires de
36 | Saint-Domingue are honored for their bravery and sacrifices in
37 | support of the United States of America during its War of
38 | Independence.

39 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
40 | presented to the Haitian American Historical Society and the
41 | Haitian Consulate in Florida as a tangible token of the
42 | sentiments expressed herein.