

By Senator Detert

23-01141A-09

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 2009 as "Swimming Pool Safety Month."

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has more than 1 million swimming pools, more than 37,000 of which are public facilities regulated by the Department of Health, and

WHEREAS, residential and commercial swimming pools and spas add to the enjoyment and quality of life and the health of the state's residents and visitors, and

WHEREAS, swimming pools and spas are recreational facilities promoting the social gathering of families and friends in a large percentage of Florida residences, and

WHEREAS, Florida hotels and condominiums have thousands of swimming pools, spas, and wading pools used by even more visitors and guests, and

WHEREAS, the education of building code and health department officials, swimming pool designers and contractors, and pool owners is paramount to ensuring pool safety, and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act was signed into law by the President of the United States, providing mandatory safety measures for public pool facilities, incentive programs concerning residential pools, and overall outreach and education on swimming pool safety, and

WHEREAS, a national consensus safety standard, ANSI/APSP 7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance, was developed in accordance with the American National Standards Institute, and adopted by the Florida Building Commission, making the State of Florida a leader in preventing serious injury from entrapment, and

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30 WHEREAS, chapter 515, Florida Statutes, provides for the  
31 Residential Swimming Pool Safety Act, which focuses on backyard  
32 pool safety and the prevention of drowning, and

33 WHEREAS, the Florida Swimming Pool Association and the  
34 Department of Health's Office of Injury Prevention continue to  
35 promote safety awareness to consumers, pool industry  
36 representatives, and government officials, and

37 WHEREAS, swimming pool and spa injuries and accidents can  
38 be prevented through the responsible behavior and preventative  
39 actions of swimmers, pool owners, and those responsible for the  
40 facilities, and

41 WHEREAS, mass media communications concerning swimming pool  
42 and spa safety during the peak period of use by consumers can  
43 create increased safety awareness and promote the installation  
44 and use of safety devices, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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48 That the Florida Senate recognizes April 2009 as "Swimming  
49 Pool Safety Month" and encourages support from the media and  
50 other organizations in advocating practices of pool safety and  
51 providing information to the public.