

By Senator Pruitt

28-03025A-09

20092734

Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring the career and life of Judge
David Harper.

WHEREAS, Judge David Harper graduated from the University
of Southwestern Louisiana in 1967 and from the Tulane University
School of Law in 1970, the same year he was admitted to The
Florida Bar, and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Judge David Harper was first elected as a
Martin County judge, a position he retained through numerous
elections throughout his career on the bench, and

WHEREAS, Judge David Harper served his community with
fairness, justice, honesty, and humor, and treated every citizen
who came through his courtroom with dignity and respect, and

WHEREAS, Judge David Harper was known for his exceedingly
down-to-earth manner, treating each member of the courthouse
staff as an equal and a friend, and

WHEREAS, Judge Harper's fellow judges revered him as a
statesman and one-of-a-kind jurist, qualities that were
reflected through his mentoring of countless young attorneys on
the Treasure Coast, and

WHEREAS, Judge David Harper not only gave back to his
community through his civic duties, but through volunteering,
especially with the Boy Scouts of America, of which he was a
devoted champion, and

WHEREAS, Judge David Harper was an avid outdoorsman as a
Life Member of the National Rifle Association and Executive
Director of the Martin County Sportsmen's Association, which he
founded with Don Lindh in 1978 from the floor of his courtroom,

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30 and

31 WHEREAS, Judge David Harper was a family man, eternally
32 devoted to his children and grandchildren, and

33 WHEREAS, Judge David Harper was a 38-year veteran of the
34 bench in Martin County and the longest-serving county court
35 judge in the State of Florida, and

36 WHEREAS, Judge David Harper died on March 17, 2009, at the
37 age of 63, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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41 That the Senate recognizes the life and passing of Judge
42 David Harper by posthumously commending his numerous
43 contributions and outstanding service to the Nineteenth Judicial
44 Circuit of Florida, the Treasure Coast communities, and the
45 people of Martin County.