

HR 9029

2009

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing March 24, 2009, as "Community
3 Action Day" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, community action agencies were created to fight
6 the war on poverty when the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 was
7 signed into law, and

8 WHEREAS, community action agencies comprise America's
9 poverty-fighting network and have a 45-year history of promoting
10 economic security for families and self-sufficiency for low-
11 income families, children, and individuals, and

12 WHEREAS, there are over 1,000 community action agencies
13 nationally, with 31 community action agencies supporting 67
14 counties in this state, and

15 WHEREAS, the 2007 American Community Survey reported that
16 over 37 million Americans are living below the poverty level and
17 that Florida ranks 26th in states with the most people below the
18 poverty level at 2,158,832, and

19 WHEREAS, Florida currently has an 8.6-percent unemployment
20 rate, which is higher than the national average, and the fourth
21 highest foreclosure rate, and almost 10 percent of Floridians
22 receive food stamps, and

23 WHEREAS, to combat these alarming statistics, Florida's
24 community action agencies provided services to 278,430
25 individuals and 128,151 families in 2007, and

26 WHEREAS, in 2007 Florida's community action agencies
27 assisted 384 low-income individuals to complete postsecondary
28 education, 6,712 low-income individuals to obtain preemployment

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29 | skills, 2,625 unemployed to obtain a job, and 1,319 under-
30 | employed individuals to increase their employment income, and

31 | WHEREAS, Florida's community action agencies will continue
32 | to provide low-income citizens with opportunities to improve
33 | their lives and their living conditions through innovative and
34 | cost-efficient programs, thus ensuring that all citizens are
35 | able to live in dignity, and

36 | WHEREAS, because the war on poverty is becoming an even
37 | more formidable challenge in our communities, it is fitting to
38 | recognize and commend the community action agencies that are at
39 | the forefront of this struggle, NOW, THEREFORE,

40 |

41 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
42 | Florida:

43 |

44 | That in recognition of the hard work, commitment, and
45 | dedication of Florida's community action agencies and their
46 | invaluable contributions to the well-being of the low-income
47 | citizens throughout the state, March 24, 2009 is recognized as
48 | "Community Action Day" in Florida.