

HR 9037

2009

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution honoring Florida State University kicker  
3 Graham Gano on winning the Lou Groza Award and recognizing  
4 his other athletic accomplishments.  
5

6 WHEREAS, Graham Gano was born in Arbroath, Scotland, on  
7 April 9, 1987, and was raised in Pensacola, Florida, where he  
8 graduated from J.M. Tate High School in 2005, and

9 WHEREAS, following his senior season of high school  
10 football, Graham Gano was named an All-American First Team  
11 selection by USA Today and accepted a scholarship offer to play  
12 football for the Florida State University Seminoles, and

13 WHEREAS, during his sophomore and junior seasons at Florida  
14 State, Graham Gano was responsible for most of the punting and  
15 kickoffs for the Seminoles, and

16 WHEREAS, prior to his senior season in 2008, Graham Gano  
17 tore the meniscus in his right knee and missed the first two  
18 games of the season, and

19 WHEREAS, following his surgery and rehabilitation, Graham  
20 Gano amazingly went on to lead the nation in the number of field  
21 goals made and in field-goal percentage, made a national best  
22 five field goals from 50 yards or more, and did not miss a kick  
23 from inside 49 yards, and

24 WHEREAS, during the 2008 season, Graham Gano set a Florida  
25 State record with 18 consecutive field goals and became the only  
26 kicker in the school's history to convert over 90 percent of his  
27 field goals in a season, and

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28 WHEREAS, Graham Gano was named the Most Valuable Player of  
29 the 2008 Champs Sports Bowl after landing four of his five punts  
30 inside the 20-yard line and his first three punts in the first  
31 quarter on the 3-yard line, the 1-yard line, and the 1-yard  
32 line, respectively, and

33 WHEREAS, Graham Gano kicked a 24-yard field goal and was a  
34 perfect three for three on point-after attempts in the East's  
35 24-19 win in the East-West Shrine Game, and

36 WHEREAS, following the 2008 season, Graham Gano was named a  
37 First Team All-American by CBS Sports and Rivals.com, and

38 WHEREAS, Graham Gano was awarded the nation's top honor for  
39 a college placekicker when he won the Lou Groza Award, marking  
40 the third time a Florida State University Seminole has won the  
41 award, NOW, THEREFORE,

42  
43 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
44 Florida:

45  
46 That the Florida House of Representatives commends Graham  
47 Gano for his many athletic accomplishments and congratulates him  
48 on his historic recognition in being awarded the 2008 Lou Groza  
49 Award.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
51 presented to Graham Gano as a tangible token of the sentiments  
52 expressed herein.