

HR 9101

2009

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution recognizing the contributions of the Florida
3 4-H Youth Development Program and commemorating the
4 program's 100th anniversary.
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6 WHEREAS, in 1909, under the direction of the University of
7 Florida's Dean of Agriculture, J. J. Vernon, the 4-H program was
8 established in Florida through the organization of boys' corn
9 clubs in Alachua, Bradford, and Marion Counties, where boys
10 learned improved methods for producing corn on their farms, and

11 WHEREAS, in 1912, Agnes Ellen Harris of the Florida State
12 College for Women, known today as Florida State University,
13 established tomato clubs, Florida's first 4-H programs for
14 girls, in 11 counties throughout the state, and these clubs
15 inspired girls' interest in home activities and provided extra
16 income through the sale of canned tomatoes, and

17 WHEREAS, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
18 established 4-H programs for African American boys and girls in
19 the state in 1915, providing instruction to boys and girls in
20 growing vegetable gardens and raising poultry to supplement
21 their family diets, and

22 WHEREAS, the Florida 4-H Youth Development Program, as it
23 is known today, evolved out of these and other programs,
24 adopting the motto "To Make the Best Better" and promoting the
25 principles of training in the four "H's": Head, Heart, Hands,
26 and Health, and

27 WHEREAS, through its 100 years of activity in Florida, the
28 Florida 4-H Youth Development Program has reached more than 1

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29 million girls and boys with educational and developmental
30 programs that have contributed significantly to the quality of
31 the lives of these young people and their families, and

32 WHEREAS, today, Florida 4-H is the youth development
33 program of the Florida Cooperative Extension System, is
34 administered by the University of Florida's Institute of Food
35 and Agricultural Sciences Extension, and boasts approximately
36 234,000 current members, NOW, THEREFORE,

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38 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
39 Florida:

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41 That the Florida 4-H Youth Development Program is
42 recognized for its 100 years of helping youth develop leadership
43 skills, self-confidence, and a love for lifelong learning; is
44 commended for the continued dedication of its 234,000 current
45 members and of the employees of the Florida Cooperative
46 Extension; and is applauded for the time and energy contributed
47 by more than 10,900 adult and teen volunteers who help make
48 Florida 4-H a truly great organization.

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50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
51 presented to the Florida 4-H Foundation as a tangible token of
the sentiments expressed herein.