

HR 9001B

2009

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution commending Hillsborough County Public  
3 Schools.

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5 WHEREAS, in November 2009, the Bill & Melinda Gates  
6 Foundation awarded Hillsborough County Public Schools a \$100  
7 million grant for the Intensive Partnerships to Empower  
8 Effective Teachers, one of the largest privately sponsored  
9 school improvement initiatives in recent years, and

10 WHEREAS, the grant application process brought together the  
11 school district, school board, and local teacher union leaders  
12 to develop comprehensive, innovative reform plans to support  
13 effective teaching and raise student achievement, and

14 WHEREAS, Hillsborough County Public Schools demonstrated a  
15 broad-based commitment to raising student achievement, with an  
16 emphasis on reforming how teachers are recruited, evaluated,  
17 supported, retained, and rewarded, and

18 WHEREAS, the school district, school board, and local  
19 teacher union will partner to develop and implement new  
20 strategies that include adopting better measures of teacher  
21 effectiveness, such as growth in student achievement and college  
22 readiness, using those measures to boost teacher development and  
23 support, tying tenure decisions more closely to teacher  
24 effectiveness measures, rewarding highly effective teachers  
25 through new career and compensation opportunities that keep them  
26 in the classroom, strengthening school leadership, and providing  
27 incentives for the most effective teachers to work in the  
28 schools and classrooms with the greatest need, and

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29 WHEREAS, in March 2008, Hillsborough County Public Schools  
30 received a first place award in the American School Board  
31 Journal's 14th annual Magna Awards program for its "Ought to Be  
32 a Law" student bill drafting competition, an innovative program  
33 that is the first of its kind in the nation and offers students  
34 the opportunity to present a bill to legislators with the  
35 possibility of it becoming a law, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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40 That the House of Representatives:

41 (1) Commends the efforts of Hillsborough County Public  
42 Schools and its partners in securing a \$100 million grant from  
43 the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

44 (2) Recognizes Florida's commitment to raising student  
45 achievement, with an emphasis on effective teaching.

46 (3) Commends Hillsborough County Public Schools for  
47 receiving a first place American School Board Journal Magna  
48 Award for its innovative "Ought to Be a Law" program.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
50 presented to Hillsborough County Public Schools as a tangible  
51 token of the sentiments expressed herein.