By Senator Justice

16-05230B-10 20102866

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing MORE HEALTH, Inc., for its promotion of health and safety to K-12 students in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.

WHEREAS, MORE HEALTH, Inc., is a 501(c)3 organization that began in 1989 as a project of the Junior League of Tampa, and

WHEREAS, over the course of the past 20 years, MORE HEALTH, Inc., has developed 23 individual lessons and educated more than two million children in grades K-12 in public and private schools in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties, and

WHEREAS, the lessons taught by MORE HEALTH, Inc., are developed using the results of needs assessments by local school systems, health departments, hospitals, law enforcement agencies, and community service agencies, and

WHEREAS, the lessons taught by MORE HEALTH, Inc., are brought to life by enthusiastic instructors and include pre- and post-visit lesson materials, with educational information distributed to students to take home to encourage family involvement in the adoption of healthy lifestyles, and

WHEREAS, classroom evaluations by MORE HEALTH, Inc., show a 98 percent approval rating for lesson content and visuals, instructor presentations, and rapport, and

WHEREAS, generous sponsorships from more than 30 community organizations allow MORE HEALTH, Inc., to offer its lessons free of charge, with Tampa General Hospital, All Children's Hospital, and the Hillsborough and Pinellas County school districts committed to a long-term partnership, and

WHEREAS, the lessons taught by MORE HEALTH, Inc., meet the

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required Florida Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for Science, Health, Language Arts, Mathematics and Physical Education and provide students with many tools to cope with life's challenges to make the behavioral changes needed to stay healthy and safe, and

WHEREAS, MORE HEALTH, Inc., Executive Director Karen Pesce is the recipient of the 2007 National Health Educator of the Year Award by the National Association of Health Education Centers, the 2009 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Heroes Award, and the Governor's Point of Light award for her commitment to decreasing the childhood obesity epidemic, and

WHEREAS, future goals of MORE HEALTH, Inc., include taking its mission of "providing health and injury prevention education to children and families" to the national level and reaching students throughout the United States with MORE HEALTH lessons, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That MORE HEALTH, Inc., is recognized for its promotion of health and safety to K-12 students in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties and Executive Director Karen Pesce is congratulated on the recognition at the state and national level of her outstanding leadership and innovation in health and safety education and promotion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Karen Pesce as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.