

By Senator Gaetz

4-05304A-10

20102868

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the important contributions of Florida's charitable private foundations and other nonprofit organizations and encouraging the formation and creation of these entities in this state.

WHEREAS, the National Center on Charitable Statistics reports that there are currently more than 71,000 nonprofit organizations in this state which feed the hungry, shelter those who are cold, support education and research, and promote the arts, among other missions, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Philanthropic Network reports that the number of foundations in this state continues to grow, and one-half of the existing organizations were created since 1995, and

WHEREAS, Foundation Center data show that Florida is home to more than 4,000 foundations that gave out more than \$1.43 billion to charitable organizations and causes in 2007, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Philanthropic Network reports that individuals, foundations, and corporate donors in this state gave \$17.7 billion in charitable contributions in 2007, a 32 percent increase over 2001, with 75 percent of Floridians giving money to a charitable organization in 2008, and

WHEREAS, foundations and charities benefit and contribute to this state's economic and social systems because of their autonomy and corresponding abilities to operate, innovate, and take responsible programmatic risks in ways that government and business cannot, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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31 That the charitable foundations in this state are
32 recognized for their innovative work in advancing quality
33 education and cutting-edge research, feeding the hungry,
34 providing basic financial literacy information, preserving
35 Florida's culture and rich history, and supporting initiatives
36 that benefit all Floridians.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the State of
38 Florida supports advancing laws and policies to facilitate
39 innovation in Florida's foundations, protect their ability to
40 self-govern, lessen the bureaucratic burden on the nonprofit
41 community, encourage the creation of nonprofit organizations,
42 and safeguard their vital work.