

By Senator Peaden

2-00706-10

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Pensacola Junior College as they celebrate its 60th Anniversary as an institution of higher learning in Florida.

WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College is the oldest public 2-year college in Florida, having served the residents of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties in Northwest Florida for more than 60 years, and

WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College opened its doors on September 8, 1948, in an old boarding house on the corner of Palafox and Cervantes Streets in downtown Pensacola, and

WHEREAS, enrollment has grown from 136 students in 1948 to nearly 34,000 students in the 2009-2010 academic year, and

WHEREAS, today Pensacola Junior College has full-service campuses in Milton, Pensacola, and Warrington, as well as a Downtown Center, and is in the process of opening a new center in southern Santa Rosa County, and

WHEREAS, nearly 40 percent of graduating seniors from local Escambia and Santa Rosa high schools begin college studies at Pensacola Junior College, and

WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College is widely recognized as one of the premiere 2-year colleges in the United States, offering more than 100 majors and areas of concentration and using the latest high-technology resources in the Mary Ekdahl Smart Center for Patient Simulation Training & Research on the Warrington campus, and

WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College is home to the Anna Lamar

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30 Switzer Center for Visual Arts and the Ashmore Center for the  
31 Performing Arts, which serve as cultural centers for the local  
32 community, supports a Public Broadcasting Station, WSRE, which  
33 provides area residents with quality programming, and provides  
34 an abundance of other educational programs and services, and

35 WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College is accredited by the  
36 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' Commission on  
37 Colleges, is part of Florida's nationally recognized Florida  
38 College System, and offers Associate of Arts, Associate of  
39 Science, and Associate of Applied Science degrees and  
40 certificate programs, including those offered through its  
41 Distance Learning Program, Adult Basic Education, and Continuing  
42 Education Departments, the Dual Enrollment Program, and the  
43 Adult High School, and

44 WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College is led by an outstanding  
45 local Board of Trustees, chaired by John O'Connor, with Ed Moore  
46 serving as vice chair, and has welcomed its sixth president,  
47 Edward Meadows, and

48 WHEREAS, Pensacola Junior College has graduated nearly  
49 100,000 students in the past 60 years and more than 1 million  
50 students have attended PJC over the course of the last 6  
51 decades, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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55 That the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Pensacola  
56 Junior College are recognized and commended as they celebrate  
57 the 60th anniversary of the college as an institution of higher  
58 learning in Florida.