

HR 9061

2010

## House Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 7, 2010, as "Dentists' Day on the Hill."

WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association, a statewide professional membership organization representing nearly 7,000 licensed dentists in this state, was established in 1884 to advance the public health through professional education and public advocacy while promoting high practice standards and improving the professional practice environment, and

WHEREAS, studies suggest that good oral health may help prevent heart disease, arterial blockage, stroke, diabetes, preterm delivery, low-birth weight babies, and bacterial pneumonia, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association is promoting "Dentistry: Gateway to Good Health" to emphasize that oral health is linked to a person's overall health, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has developed "Mouth Wise," a dental health education kit for elementary students designed to give children a basic understanding of their teeth, mouths, and gums, the importance of preventive dentistry, and the relationship of preventive dentistry to overall health care, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has also developed a "Mouth Wise" dental health education kit for middle school students to teach the importance of dental health care, focusing on nutrition and soda consumption, the use of mouth guards and smokeless tobacco, and oral piercing, and

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29 WHEREAS, in 1996, the Florida Dental Association joined  
30 efforts with the Department of Health's Volunteer Health Care  
31 Provider Program to create "Project: Dentists' Care," a dental-  
32 access program that, in 2009, provided care for underserved  
33 adults and children statewide for an estimated \$5.9 million in  
34 donated services, and

35 WHEREAS, in February 2010, dentists in Florida volunteered  
36 dental services for the annual "Give Kids A Smile" event, NOW,  
37 THEREFORE,

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

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42 That April 7, 2010, is recognized as "Dentists' Day on the  
43 Hill."

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
45 presented to the Florida Dental Association as a tangible token  
46 of the sentiments expressed herein.