

HR 9131

2010

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing Florida's vineyards and wineries for their valuable contributions to Florida's rich history, culture, and economy.

WHEREAS, over 100 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, and 300 years before California became a state, 16th century Spanish explorers settled in Florida, which they aptly named in recognition of the state's beautiful fruits and flowers, and brought with them the traditions of Old World winemaking, and

WHEREAS, Spanish settlers harvested the wild Florida grapes and, applying the traditions of their homeland, converted Florida's wild muscadine into the first American wine, and

WHEREAS, evoking memories of sleepy summer afternoons in the deep south, smooth, aromatic, and nostalgic muscadine wines are the byproduct of Old World traditions and new world production methods and are a southern specialty produced nowhere else on earth, and

WHEREAS, for over 75 years, scholars at the University of Florida have been committed to improving Florida grapes, developing varieties that are well-suited to winemaking and Florida soils and that flourish in Florida's subtropical climate, and

WHEREAS, Florida's wineries and vineyards are scattered throughout the state, from Destin, through the Panhandle, and south as far as Plant City and Fort Myers, with harvest times ranging from May to September, and

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29 WHEREAS, Florida's vineyards, wineries, and flavorful wines
30 are interesting parts of Florida's history that more and more
31 people are discovering and appreciating, NOW, THEREFORE,

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33 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
34 Florida:

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36 That the Florida House of Representatives recognizes
37 Florida's vineyards and wineries for their valuable
38 contributions to Florida's rich history, culture, and economy.