

HR 9025

2012

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating January 29 through February
3 5, 2012, as Catholic Schools Week and Wednesday,
4 February 1, 2012, as National Appreciation Day for
5 Catholic Schools in the State of Florida.

6
7 WHEREAS, the tradition of Catholic schools dates back to
8 1606 when Franciscans opened a Catholic school to teach reading,
9 mathematics, and the principles of the Catholic religion in St.
10 Augustine, Florida, and

11 WHEREAS, this tradition was followed by other missions
12 established by Spanish missionaries long before the settlement
13 at Jamestown, Virginia, and before the Pilgrims landed at
14 Plymouth Rock, and

15 WHEREAS, today there are 82,464 students attending 213
16 Catholic elementary and high schools with 6,669 professional
17 educators serving those students throughout the state, and

18 WHEREAS, the State Constitution states that all persons
19 have inalienable rights, among which are the right to pursue
20 happiness and to be rewarded for industry, and

21 WHEREAS, the State Constitution also states that the
22 education of children is a fundamental value of the people of
23 the state, and

24 WHEREAS, Catholic schools provide young people with a
25 strong foundation of faith, values, and academic skills needed
26 to become responsible citizens of the state and nation, and

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27 WHEREAS, the Catholic Church views parents as the primary
28 educators of their children and believes that parental
29 involvement plays a major role in the education of students, and

30 WHEREAS, Catholic schools believe that teaching morals and
31 values is paramount in the complete education of the student
32 since every member of society continually makes moral decisions
33 and value judgments, and

34 WHEREAS, Catholic schools educate many students who are not
35 Catholic, are economically disadvantaged, and have special
36 educational needs, and

37 WHEREAS, Catholic school educators are dedicated to
38 producing faith-filled, academically strong students who also
39 commit themselves to service, and

40 WHEREAS, January 29 through February 5, 2012, has been
41 designated as Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic
42 Schools: Faith. Academics. Service.", as denoted by the National
43 Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States
44 Conference of Catholic Bishops, and

45 WHEREAS, the influences of a Catholic school education,
46 including faith, knowledge, morals, and discipline, last a
47 lifetime, and

48 WHEREAS, the common good of the state is strengthened
49 through the existence of Catholic schools, NOW, THEREFORE,

50
51 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
52 Florida:

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54 That January 29 through February 5, 2012, is designated as

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55 | Catholic Schools Week and Wednesday, February 1, 2012, is
56 | designated as National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools in
57 | the State of Florida.

58 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
59 | presented to the Florida Catholic Conference as a tangible token
60 | of the sentiments expressed herein.