1					House Memorial
2			A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3			urging Congress to direct the National Marine
4			Fisheries Service to withdraw its consideration of
5			listing the queen conch as a threatened or endangered
6			species.
7
8			WHEREAS, the importation, distribution, and sale of queen
9	conch accounts for a significant percentage of the commerce and
10	tourism industry in the southern region of Florida, and
11			WHEREAS, queen conch is a popular local delicacy that
12	attracts millions of tourists to local restaurants, and
13			WHEREAS, Florida currently has long-term conservation
14	measures to sustainably manage queen conch populations, and
15			WHEREAS, the harvesting of the queen conch in state waters
16	and adjacent federal waters is prohibited, and
17			WHEREAS, the importation of queen conch from countries that
18	do not have similar long-term conservation measures is
19	prohibited, and
20			WHEREAS, those fisheries from which queen conch is
21	currently imported are located in limited areas of federal and
22	United States territorial waters and operate under strict
23	regulations, and
24			WHEREAS, listing the queen conch as a threatened or
25	endangered species would ban the legal importation of queen
26	conch and have a detrimental impact on commerce and tourism in
27	the southern region of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,
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29 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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31   That Congress is urged to direct the National Marine

32 Fisheries Service to withdraw its consideration of listing the

33 queen conch as a threatened or endangered species.

34   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

35 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the

36 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the

37 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of

38 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.