

By Senator Richter

23-01544C-13

20131296

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing July 27 and 28, 2013, as  
"Florida Family Golf Days."

WHEREAS, the golf industry has become an integral part of  
the economy, identity, and quality of life in this state, and

WHEREAS, golf has become a major component of Florida's  
economy, with a direct economic impact in 2007 of \$7.5 billion  
and an indirect economic benefit of \$13.8 billion, and

WHEREAS, the golf industry employs 167,000 Floridians and  
has an annual payroll of \$4.7 billion, and

WHEREAS, Florida is home to the PGA TOUR in Ponte Vedra  
Beach, the LPGA in Daytona Beach, the PGA of America in Palm  
Beach Gardens, The First Tee, the World Golf Hall of Fame, and  
the World Golf Foundation in St. Augustine, and

WHEREAS, Florida enjoys nationally recognized statewide  
golf industry associations, including the Florida Club Managers  
Association of America, The Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of America, the Florida State Golf Association, and  
the Florida Sections of the PGA of America, and

WHEREAS, Florida is home to more than 1,200 public and  
private golf course facilities, more than any other state in  
America, which generate revenues of \$3.4 billion, more than all  
other spectator sports in the state combined, and

WHEREAS, Florida will host 14 professional golf  
championships in 2013, including five PGA TOUR events, two  
Champions Tour events, a Web.com Tour event, an LPGA Tour event,  
three "Legends Tour" events, and five Symetra Tour events, and

WHEREAS, two of golf's most prestigious events are played

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30 in Florida, THE PLAYERS Championship at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte  
31 Vendra Beach and the World Golf Championships - Cadillac  
32 Championship, played since 2007 at the Blue Monster Course of  
33 the Doral Golf Resort & Spa, and

34 WHEREAS, Florida's golf industry is a top contributor to  
35 charitable organizations, with donations totaling more than \$312  
36 million annually from numerous charitable golf outings and  
37 events as well as the charitable giving associated with  
38 professional golf tournaments, and

39 WHEREAS, beneficiaries of these charitable events include  
40 Miami Children's Hospital, First Tee Miami, the Make-A-Wish  
41 Foundation, Baptist Children's Hospital, the Children's Miracle  
42 Network hospitals, the Nicklaus Children's Health Care  
43 Foundation, The First Tee National School Program, Boy Scouts of  
44 America, the American Red Cross, the Alzheimer's Support  
45 Network, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southwest Florida, and many  
46 others, and

47 WHEREAS, Florida's golf courses and superintendents have  
48 continued to be stewards of the environment by using best  
49 practices in hazardous waste management, wetland and stormwater  
50 protection, and wastewater minimization, and

51 WHEREAS, the game of golf assists in the development of  
52 Florida's youth through the introduction of life skills  
53 experiences, management of emotions, goal setting, conflict  
54 resolution, and improving relationships with family and  
55 community, and

56 WHEREAS, the concentration of golf activity in Florida in  
57 2013 will bring an unprecedented amount of worldwide exposure to  
58 this state, and

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59           WHEREAS, golf is a tremendous asset to this state,  
60 impacting quality of life and tourism and strengthening the  
61 state's position as a great place to live and do business, and

62           WHEREAS, the golf industry has a tremendous impact on the  
63 state's economy, provides recreation and wellness opportunities  
64 for residents of all ages, fosters strong character development  
65 for Florida's youth, provides opportunities for family playtime  
66 together, contributes significantly to charitable organizations,  
67 and is intrinsic to the brand of the Sunshine State, NOW,  
68 THEREFORE,

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

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72           That, in recognition of the importance of golf in  
73 strengthening families and to the economy of this state, the  
74 Senate recognizes July 27 and 28, 2013, as "Florida Family Golf  
75 Days."

76           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
77 presented to the affiliated organizations of the World Golf  
78 Foundation as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed in  
79 this resolution.