

By Senator Joyner

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution remembering the lifetime public service
3 of retired Florida Supreme Court Justice and former
4 Senator Frederick "Fred" Brennan Karl and recognizing
5 his legacy of integrity and his promotion of the
6 highest ethical standards in government.
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8 WHEREAS, native son Frederick "Fred" Brennan Karl was born
9 in Daytona Beach on May 14, 1924, and

10 WHEREAS, at age 18, Fred Karl joined the United States
11 Army, serving in the European Theater of Operations in the 20th
12 and 2nd Armored Divisions, and

13 WHEREAS, Fred Karl was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge,
14 which he later chronicled in his book *Phython Tales*, and was
15 awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart,
16 and

17 WHEREAS, after World War II, Fred Karl graduated from the
18 University of Florida and Stetson University College of Law, and

19 WHEREAS, in 1956, Fred Karl was elected to the Florida
20 House of Representatives, where he represented the people of the
21 14th District until 1964, and

22 WHEREAS, in 1968, Fred Karl returned to Tallahassee to
23 represent the people of the 14th District in the Florida Senate,
24 where he served until 1971, and

25 WHEREAS, in 1977, Fred Karl was elected to the Florida
26 Supreme Court, where he served from 1977 through 1978, and

27 WHEREAS, Fred Karl went on to serve as this state's first
28 Public Counsel, representing consumers in cases brought against
29 public utilities, and later held the position of Hillsborough

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30 County Attorney and County Manager, and

31 WHEREAS, it was in this position that Fred Karl embarked on
32 the vital reorganization and countless economic development
33 projects that led the Tampa Bay area to become the vibrant
34 community that it is today, and

35 WHEREAS, at an age when many might consider retirement,
36 Fred Karl took the reins of the then-struggling Tampa General
37 Hospital, transforming its operations and leading it back to
38 economic viability, and

39 WHEREAS, while Fred Karl is remembered in political circles
40 as one of Hillsborough County's greatest political mentors and
41 problem solvers, he is remembered by his friends and family for
42 his exuberance, vitality, cheerfulness, and love of life, and

43 WHEREAS, Fred Karl was a devoted husband to his wife,
44 Mercedes, a loving and proud father to his children, Cynthia,
45 Linda, Mary, Fred, and James, and a doting grandfather of
46 fifteen and great-grandfather of four, all of whom will miss him
47 greatly, NOW, THEREFORE,

48

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

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51 That we remember the life of retired Florida Supreme Court
52 Justice and former Senator Frederick "Fred" Brennan Karl and
53 extend our heartfelt sympathy to his friends, family, and the
54 entire Hillsborough County community as they mourn the loss of
55 this outstanding friend, husband, father, and public servant.