

By Senator Hays

11-01794B-13

20131804__

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing master craftsman Jeff Penuel for his painstaking restoration of the Carr Family Cabin in the Ocala National Forest.

WHEREAS, the Carr Family Cabin is a historically significant structure located on 46 acres of wild land donated to the Ocala National Forest in 2007 by Tom Carr, and

WHEREAS, the Carr Family Cabin was built 74 years ago by a local Florida Cracker craftsman, using the Carr family as his labor, and

WHEREAS, the Carr Family Cabin was the location where Tom Carr's brother, Archie, a famous naturalist, was introduced to Florida's wild lands, setting the stage for his lifetime commitment to this state's ecological conservation and the global plight of vanishing sea turtle populations, and

WHEREAS, the Carr Family Cabin is often compared to naturalists Henry David Thoreau's Walden, Aldo Leopold's "shack," and Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' Cross Creek, and

WHEREAS, in 2007, with the Carr Family Cabin in imminent danger of collapse, the United States Forest Service commissioned the exterior bracing of the disintegrating structure, contracting with local custom-home builder Jeff Penuel, himself a direct descendent of Florida Crackers, and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Carr Family Cabin was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and

WHEREAS, with the Carr Family Cabin braced, the United States Forest Service formed a partnership with the Umatilla

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30 Historical Society which gave birth to the Friends of Carr
31 Cabin, and under the umbrella of the organization's tax exempt
32 status, funds were raised to restore the cabin, and

33 WHEREAS, the Friends of Carr Cabin once again turned to
34 Jeff Penuel, who, over the course of the next 4 years, lovingly
35 and painstakingly restored the structure, donating significant
36 time and resources to bring the project to completion, and

37 WHEREAS, in 2012, the Society for History in the Federal
38 Government awarded the Carr Cabin Restoration Project the
39 distinguished John Wesley Powell Prize for outstanding
40 achievement in historic preservation, and

41 WHEREAS, the restoration of the Carr Family Cabin is
42 testimony to Florida Cracker determination and the power of
43 community partnerships, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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47 That we recognize master craftsman Jeff Penuel for his
48 painstaking restoration of the Carr Family Cabin in the Ocala
49 National Forest.