

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

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Senate Resolution

A resolution remembering the life of Enrique Emilio Ros Perez, recognizing his extraordinary legacy, and expressing the deepest sympathy of the members of the Florida Senate to his beloved family and friends on his passing.

WHEREAS, Enrique Emilio Ros Perez was born to Josefina Perez and Abelardo Ros in Cienfuegos, Las Villas, Cuba, on June 28, 1924, and

WHEREAS, Enrique proudly attended public school, was admitted in 1939 to the Instituto de Segunda Enseñanza, and, in 1941, began his studies in Santa Clara at the Escuela Normal de Maestros de Las Villas, where he graduated as a teacher, and

WHEREAS, in 1944, Enrique transferred to the School of Commercial Sciences at Universidad de la Habana, where he graduated with a degree in public accounting, and

WHEREAS, while completing his studies at Universidad de la Habana, Enrique worked for a prestigious pharmaceutical company, becoming a delegate and director for the pharmaceutical union, where he discussed collective contracts with the Ministry of Labor, and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 1948, Enrique married Amanda Adato Menache, a young woman of Jewish-Turkish descent, and they remained married for 63 years until her passing on January 28, 2011, and

WHEREAS, Enrique and Amanda had two children, Enrique "Henry" Ros, now vice director of the Port of Miami, and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, the first Hispanic woman to serve in the Florida

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30 Senate and the Florida House of Representatives and currently a  
31 member of the United States House of Representatives, and

32 WHEREAS, Enrique became a distinguished member of the  
33 Federacion Sindical Nacional de Viajantes de Medicina, which  
34 allowed him to participate in various national congresses, and

35 WHEREAS, Enrique established a public accounting firm in  
36 Cuba, Ros-Solis y Adato, where he represented renowned European  
37 pharmaceutical companies, began to publish articles on important  
38 issues in the local press, and became part of the political and  
39 social Christian organization, El Movimiento Democrata  
40 Cristiano, and

41 WHEREAS, with the rise of the Castro regime, El Movimiento  
42 Democrata Cristiano ended its public activity, with many of its  
43 members forming a clandestine organization, in which Enrique  
44 served as the national coordinator, and

45 WHEREAS, in this role, Enrique established relations with  
46 members and directors of other pro-democracy groups, which  
47 motivated other directors to assign him as national coordinator  
48 of El Frente Revolucionario Democratico (FRD), which was formed  
49 in 1959, and Enrique assumed the responsibility of coordinating  
50 various anti-Castro organizations in Cuba, and

51 WHEREAS, even after Enrique and his family were forced into  
52 exile, he worked with El Frente Revolucionario Democratico,  
53 where he participated in infiltration operations against the  
54 totalitarian regime with Clemente (Mente) Inclan, Alfonsito  
55 Gomez Mena, Laureano Batista, Jorge Sotus, Pedro Luis Diaz Lans,  
56 and others, who inspired him to write for newspapers in  
57 Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, and Peru, and

58 WHEREAS, in 1963, Enrique went on to collaborate with

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59 *Diario Las Americas* in Miami, where he continued his passionate  
60 and eloquent support of democracy and freedom for the Cuban  
61 people through the remainder of his life, and

62 WHEREAS, in the early years of their exile, Enrique and  
63 Amanda founded one of the most successful freight-forwarding  
64 enterprises, Ros Forwarding, which they operated for more than  
65 30 years until their retirement, and

66 WHEREAS, after immigrating to the United States, Enrique  
67 attended Miami Dade Community College and, on January 24, 1969,  
68 received his bachelor of business administration degree from the  
69 University of Miami, and

70 WHEREAS, Enrique published 19 books, which remain an  
71 important source of reference for historians, academics, and  
72 other scholars, and received numerous awards and recognitions,  
73 including accreditation as a researcher in the National Archives  
74 of the United States, the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, and  
75 the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin, Texas, and

76 WHEREAS, at the time of his death, on April 10, 2013,  
77 Enrique was writing his 20th book, which detailed the military  
78 bravery of Cuban hero Antonio Maceo, and

79 WHEREAS, Enrique was a member of various local and national  
80 organizations and participated frequently in radio and  
81 television programs, and his tireless work and dedication made  
82 him one of the most documented and prolific historians of our  
83 time, and

84 WHEREAS, Enrique was loved and is affectionately remembered  
85 by his children; his daughter-in-law, Ana Ros; his son-in-law,  
86 Dexter Lehtinen; his four grandchildren, Jennifer Ros, Katherine  
87 Ros, Rodrigo Lehtinen, and Patricia Lehtinen, and two step-

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88 grandchildren, Katherine and Douglas Lehtinen; his three great-  
89 grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren; his extended  
90 family; and a host of friends, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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94 That we remember the life of Enrique Emilio Ros Perez,  
95 recognize his extraordinary legacy, and express our deepest  
96 sympathy to his beloved family and friends on his passing.