By Senator Garcia

38-01475-13   2013838__

1   Senate Resolution

2   A resolution recognizing the Turkish American

3   Federation of the Southeast and applauding its efforts

4   to bridge cultural divides and celebrate diversity.

5

6   WHEREAS, South Florida is home to the third-largest Turkish

7 population in the nation and, each spring, tens of thousands of

8 Floridians attend the Turkish Festival organized by the Anatolia

9 Cultural Center which features contemporary and traditional

10 varieties of Turkish music, performing arts, and historic

11 Ottoman marchers, and

12   WHEREAS, the Turkish American Federation of the Southeast

13 is comprised of 22 Turkish and Turkic nonprofit and

14 nongovernmental organizations in this and four other southern

15 states and was established to improve the relationship between

16 Turkic and American communities through educational, cultural,

17 business, and other community endeavors, and

18   WHEREAS, the Turkish American Federation of the Southeast

19 is hosting an annual art and essay contest for middle school and

20 high school students in which they are encouraged to explore

21 cultural differences through creative works of art or the

22 written word, and

23   WHEREAS, in February 2010, the Turkish American Chamber of

24 Commerce of the Southeast launched an annual business

25 "matchmaking program" in which business owners and chief

26 executive officers from Turkish companies visited Atlanta,

27 Georgia, to explore import-export opportunities with local

28 companies, and

29   WHEREAS, the Turkish American Federation of the Southeast

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30 supports this and other efforts to boost the economy of this

31 state, NOW, THEREFORE,

32

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

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35   That we do hereby recognize the Turkish American Federation

36 of the Southeast and applaud its efforts to bridge cultural

37 divides and celebrate diversity.