

HR 9081

2013

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating the State of Florida as a  
3 Purple Heart State to honor the service and sacrifice  
4 of Florida's men and women in the United States Armed  
5 Forces.

6  
7 WHEREAS, General George Washington, as the commander-in-  
8 chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary  
9 War, first introduced the Badge of Military Merit in 1782,  
10 instructing that it be awarded "not only [in] instances of  
11 unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary fidelity and  
12 essential service in any way," and

13 WHEREAS, the nation's oldest military award, described by  
14 General Washington as a heart in purple cloth, eventually became  
15 known as the Purple Heart, and

16 WHEREAS, while the badge was not awarded for many years  
17 after the American Revolutionary War and only intermittently  
18 during the late 1920s, General Douglas MacArthur announced the  
19 reestablishment of the Purple Heart medal on February 22, 1932,  
20 the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, in memory  
21 and honor of George Washington's military achievements, and

22 WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of Floridians who  
23 have served and are serving in the United States Armed Forces  
24 have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life  
25 enjoyed by its citizens, and

26 WHEREAS, many Floridians have earned the Purple Heart medal  
27 as a result of being wounded in combat, which is recognized as a  
28 singularly meritorious act of essential service, and numerous

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29 Floridians have made the ultimate sacrifice of giving their  
 30 lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces, and

31 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida have great  
 32 admiration and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women  
 33 who have selflessly served their country and this state in the  
 34 United States Armed Forces, recognizing that each person made  
 35 several sacrifices to do so, and

36 WHEREAS, it is a privilege to honor those veterans in  
 37 Florida whose service and sacrifice were recognized with the  
 38 awarding of a Purple Heart medal, NOW, THEREFORE,

39

40 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
 41 Florida:

42

43 That the State of Florida is designated as a Purple Heart  
 44 State to honor the service and sacrifice of Florida's men and  
 45 women in the United States Armed Forces who were wounded or  
 46 killed while protecting their country.