

By Senator Hays

11-00592A-14

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2, 2014, as "Dentists'
3 Day on the Hill."

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5 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association, a statewide
6 professional membership organization representing nearly 6,500
7 licensed dentists in this state, was established in 1884 to
8 advance the public health through professional education and
9 public advocacy while promoting high practice standards and
10 improving the professional practice environment, and

11 WHEREAS, studies show that good oral health may help
12 prevent heart disease, arterial blockage, stroke, diabetes,
13 bacterial pneumonia, preterm delivery, and low birth weight, and

14 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association is promoting
15 "Creating a Masterpiece" to emphasize that oral health is
16 directly linked to a person's overall health, and

17 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has developed
18 "Mouth Wise," a dental health education curriculum designed to
19 give children a basic understanding of their teeth, mouths, and
20 gums, the importance of preventive dentistry, and the
21 relationship of preventive dentistry to overall health care, and

22 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association has also developed
23 a "Mouth Wise" dental health education curriculum for middle
24 school students which teaches the importance of dental health
25 care in four modules, "Nutrition and Soda Consumption," "The Use
26 of Mouth Guards," "Smokeless Tobacco," and "Oral Piercing," and

27 WHEREAS, in 1993 the Florida Dental Association joined
28 efforts with the Department of Health's Volunteer Health Care
29 Provider Program to create "Project: Dentists Care," a dental

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30 access program that, in 2013, provided care for underserved
31 adults and children statewide, donating an estimated \$10 million
32 in services, and

33 WHEREAS, in February 2014, dentists in this state
34 volunteered dental services for the annual "Give Kids A Smile"
35 event, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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39 That April 2, 2014, is recognized as "Dentists' Day on the
40 Hill."

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
42 presented to the Florida Dental Association as a tangible token
43 of the sentiments expressed in this resolution.