By Senator Bean

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

WHEREAS, the United States of America continues to be engaged in a continuing war against terrorism, and the threat of future domestic terrorist attacks remains, and

WHEREAS, in future acts of terrorism, terrorists may employ the use of unconventional weapons, including nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological weapons, which could result in a significant number of casualties, or a cybersecurity attack, which could significantly impair the nation's critical cyber and communications networks and infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 in order to provide a transparent system of shared public and private compensation for certain insured losses resulting from a certified act of terrorism through the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program, and

WHEREAS, Congress reauthorized the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 in 2005 and 2007 to maintain the ability of insurers to offer widespread coverage for future catastrophes resulting from an act of terrorism, and

WHEREAS, if the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 is not reauthorized before its scheduled expiration on December 31, 2014, the commercial real estate industry will be negatively impacted as building owners will encounter difficulty financing property sales or refinancing existing debt without access to adequate insurance policies, and

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WHEREAS, the lack of private terrorism insurance coverage would inordinately shift the financial burden to taxpayers as the Federal Government may need to cover such losses in the event of an attack, and

WHEREAS, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program is an essential component of adequately preparing for an effective economic recovery following a catastrophic terrorist attack in the United States, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the Congress of the United States is urged to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 before the current authorization of the law expires on December 31, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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