

By Senator Hays

11-01984-14

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing the Florida Dental
3 Association and the Florida Dental Health Foundation
4 for their outstanding contribution to the dental
5 health of the residents of the Tampa Bay area as the
6 hosts of the first Mission of Mercy event in Florida.

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

14 WHEREAS, studies show that good oral health may help
15 prevent heart disease, arterial blockage, stroke, diabetes,
16 preterm delivery, low birth weight in babies, and bacterial
17 pneumonia, and

18 WHEREAS, the Florida Dental Association is promoting the
19 message "Dentistry: Gateway to Good Health" to emphasize that
20 oral health is directly linked to a person's overall health, and

21 WHEREAS, on March 28 and 29, 2014, the Florida Dental
22 Association, through the Florida Dental Health Foundation, will
23 host Florida's first Mission of Mercy event to provide free
24 dental services for the underserved, at the Tampa Fairgrounds,
25 and

26 WHEREAS, participants may receive dental services at the
27 Mission of Mercy regardless of income status, residency, or
28 health status, and

29 WHEREAS, hundreds of volunteers, including dentists, dental

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30 hygienists, dental assistants, medical professionals, and
31 laypersons, will be actively engaged in providing care to those
32 in need, and

33 WHEREAS, numerous organizations have joined the Florida
34 Dental Association and the Florida Dental Health Foundation to
35 serve as sponsors of the event, including the Alliance of the
36 Florida Dental Association, the West Coast District Dental
37 Association, Brandon Regional Hospital, Dental Health and
38 Wellness, Crest, Oral-B, the DentaQuest Foundation, Darby
39 Dental, Delta Dental, Dentsply, the Florida Association of
40 Orthodontists, the Florida Association of Periodontists, the
41 Florida Prosthodontic Association, the Hillsborough County
42 Dental Association, Liberty Mutual, The Doctors Company, Managed
43 Care of North America, Regions Bank, the Upper Pinellas County
44 Dental Association, Great Expressions Dental Centers, More
45 Health, and the Florida Association of Endodontists, NOW,
46 THEREFORE,

47
48 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

49
50 That the Florida Dental Association and the Florida Dental
51 Health Foundation are recognized for their outstanding
52 contribution to the dental health of the residents of the Tampa
53 Bay area as the hosts of the first Mission of Mercy event in
54 Florida.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
56 presented to the Florida Dental Association and the Florida
57 Dental Health Foundation as a tangible token of the sentiments
58 expressed in this resolution.