

By Senator Dean

5-00480-14

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 2014 as "Springs Protection Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida's springs are essential to the environment, economy, and residents of, and visitors to, this state, and

WHEREAS, Florida has one of the most productive aquifers in the world, which supports more than 700 natural springs, giving this state the world's highest concentration of springs, and

WHEREAS, more than 93 percent of Florida residents rely on this groundwater supply and its vitality to the state's economy, and

WHEREAS, springs are a natural resource that must be protected, as they reflect groundwater conditions and provide an important habitat for wildlife, including species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, and

WHEREAS, springs provide important recreation resources and opportunities that are enjoyed by residents and visitors alike, and

WHEREAS, Florida's springs discharge more than 8 billion gallons of water each day, which is essential for sustaining spring runs and associated receiving water bodies, and

WHEREAS, healthy springs reflect the State of Florida's commitment to sustainable ground and surface water resource protection, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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30           That April 2014 is recognized as "Springs Protection  
31 Awareness Month" in Florida, and all levels of government are  
32 encouraged to support springs protection, restoration, and  
33 preservation awareness.