

HR 9117

2014

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing June 5, 2014, as "Coastal
3 Dune Lakes Day" in the State of Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, coastal dune lakes are a unique coastal dune and
6 watershed system and one of the rarest and most unique natural
7 systems in the world, occurring only in Australia, New Zealand,
8 Madagascar, Oregon, South Carolina, and Northwest Florida, and

9 WHEREAS, Walton County is known worldwide for its sugar-
10 white sand beaches and emerald waters and is home to 15 named
11 coastal dune lakes that constitute a rare natural phenomenon
12 based on a dynamic and intermittent exchange with the Gulf of
13 Mexico, and

14 WHEREAS, these coastal dune lakes, Lake Powell, Alligator
15 Lake, Lake Allen, Camp Creek, Little Redfish Lake, Stallworth
16 Lake, Deer Lake, Big Redfish Lake, Campbell Lake, Eastern Lake,
17 Draper Lake, Morris Lake, Western Lake, Oyster Lake, and Fuller
18 Lake, are fed by streams, groundwater seepage, rain, and storm
19 surge, with water conditions among lakes varying greatly, from
20 completely fresh to significantly saline, and

21 WHEREAS, the coastal dune lakes, which are listed as
22 globally imperiled by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory,
23 create a uniquely pristine environment that exists nowhere else
24 in Florida, and

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25 WHEREAS, this complex hydrologic system provides habitat
26 for a wide array of animal life, including protected and
27 endangered species, and

28 WHEREAS, protection of coastal dune lakes provides
29 important ecological benefits, such as storm protection and
30 restoration of water flow into the Gulf of Mexico, and

31 WHEREAS, the coastal dune lakes are vital to the economy of
32 Florida, providing opportunities for fishing, hiking, birding,
33 canoeing, kayaking, Ecotouring, plein-air painting, photographic
34 expeditions, and other activities that provide recreation and an
35 intimate connection with nature, and

36 WHEREAS, the current Outstanding Florida Water designation
37 of Lake Powell establishes a foundation and provides a precedent
38 for the effort to protect the unparalleled beauty and diversity
39 of Florida's natural, cultural, and economic legacies for future
40 generations, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

44
45 That June 5, 2014, is recognized as "Coastal Dune Lakes
46 Day" in the State of Florida and residents are encouraged to
47 celebrate Florida's natural ecological treasures.