

By Senator Thompson

12-02802-15

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing Dress for Success for helping women around the world succeed in the workplace and in life since 1997.

WHEREAS, Dress for Success is a global, not-for-profit organization that promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support, and career development tools to help them thrive in the workplace and in life, and

WHEREAS, in 1997, second-year law student Nancy Lublin received a \$5,000 inheritance from her great-grandfather and decided to turn this gift into one that would help women in need, and

WHEREAS, teaming up with three area nuns, Nancy Lublin later that year founded Dress for Success in the basement of a church in Manhattan, and

WHEREAS, from that original basement boutique, the Dress for Success concept spread across all of North America and across the globe, demonstrating that achieving economic independence is a universal challenge faced by all women, regardless of their location, language, customs, or culture, and

WHEREAS, since 1997, Dress for Success has expanded to more than 139 cities in 19 countries and has helped more than 850,000 women work toward self-sufficiency, and

WHEREAS, Dress for Success thrives because of the dedication of community volunteers, and each year, more than 10,000 women and men generously donate their time and talents across the globe to help women obtain employment, and

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30 WHEREAS, Dress for Success affiliates receive client
31 referrals from more than 5,000 diverse not-for-profit and
32 government agencies internationally, which include homeless
33 shelters, immigration services, job training programs,
34 educational institutions, and domestic violence shelters, among
35 many others, and

36 WHEREAS, today, Dress for Success operates six stand-alone
37 boutiques in Florida, located in Tallahassee, Winter Park,
38 Tampa, Fort Myers, Lake Worth, and Miami, which collectively
39 have helped more than 22,000 women achieve economic stability
40 since 2005, and

41 WHEREAS, Dress for Success and its affiliates are committed
42 to helping all women in need make a fresh start and achieve
43 their professional and personal goals, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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47 That Dress for Success is recognized for helping women
48 around the world succeed in the workplace and in life since
49 1997.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
51 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to each of the six
52 Florida affiliate chapters as a tangible token of the sentiments
53 of the Florida Senate.