

By Senator Joyner

19-04738-15

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Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring the service of Andy Ford and commending him for his dedication to the enrichment of public education in Florida.

WHEREAS, a native of Princeton, New Jersey, Andy Ford earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Flagler College in St. Augustine, and

WHEREAS, Andy Ford taught in a Catholic school in Trenton, New Jersey, and in urban public elementary schools in Jacksonville, and

WHEREAS, Andy Ford has held many positions as an education leader, including president of the Duval Teachers United in Jacksonville, vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, and vice president and president of the Florida Education Association (FEA), where he currently holds the distinction of being the longest-serving president of the organization, and

WHEREAS, Andy Ford was instrumental in merging the state's teachers unions into a single, unified voice for excellence in public education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, as FEA president, Andy Ford represents more than 140,000 school employees in Florida's public schools, community colleges, and universities, including teachers, education staff professionals, higher education faculty, graduate assistants, retired members, and other staff, and

WHEREAS, Andy Ford has focused his efforts on high-quality public schools for every student, dignity and justice for all workers, equal opportunities regardless of race or gender, and

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30 furthering of education as a means for individuals to achieve  
31 the great American dream, and

32 WHEREAS, Andy Ford continues to work tirelessly to build a  
33 stronger public education system in this state by working to  
34 move FEA's education issues forward, and mobilizing members to  
35 strengthen the FEA's voice on important education matters, and

36 WHEREAS, in commemoration of his final session as FEA  
37 president, Andy Ford will be remembered as a thoughtful,  
38 purposeful, and stalwart advocate for Florida's public school  
39 students and those who work in our public schools, NOW,  
40 THEREFORE,

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

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44 That we recognize the contributions and services of Andy  
45 Ford and commend him for his lifelong dedication to the  
46 preservation and advancement of public education in Florida.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with  
48 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Andy Ford as a  
49 tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.