

HR 9065

2015

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution recognizing the career and achievements
3 of Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D., president of Palm Beach
4 State College.

5
6 WHEREAS, Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D., a Florida native, was
7 born and raised in Monticello, and has spent more than 50
8 distinguished years as an educator, beginning as a high school
9 teacher in 1964, and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Gallon has served as the fourth president of
11 Palm Beach State College for nearly 18 years, beginning in 1997
12 and ending June 30, 2015, and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Gallon has performed admirably in a variety of
14 positions in postsecondary education, including as a business
15 professor, business manager, dean, associate vice president, and
16 campus president at Florida State College at Jacksonville, with
17 the culmination of his career as president of Palm Beach State
18 College, and

19 WHEREAS, under his leadership, Palm Beach State College has
20 received many honors, including the national Bellwether Award
21 for Instructional Programs and Services in 2006; named one of
22 the 100 most affordable colleges in the United States; ranked
23 the eighth-largest producer of associate degrees in the country;
24 and twice selected by the Aspen Institute as one of the top
25 community colleges in the nation and a contender for the
26 prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, and

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27 WHEREAS, during Dr. Gallon's tenure, a new Palm Beach State
28 College Campus has been approved, which is under construction
29 and scheduled to open in 2016, resulting in five full-service
30 campuses, and

31 WHEREAS, under Dr. Gallon's leadership, Palm Beach State
32 College has nearly doubled its annual full-time equivalent
33 student enrollment and increased its completion rate from 29
34 percent to 43 percent, and

35 WHEREAS, under Dr. Gallon's guidance, Palm Beach State
36 College has seen a 160-percent increase in the college's
37 operating budget and growth of its direct-support organization
38 from \$8.5 million to nearly \$32 million in net assets; the
39 transition of adult vocational programs from the school district
40 to the college; the addition of numerous programs in health
41 sciences, public safety, child care, and trade and industry; the
42 launching of an Honors College and expansion of the college
43 mission and curriculum to offer three baccalaureate degree
44 programs; and designation of the institution as a State College,
45 and

46 WHEREAS, after 18 years of selfless service as president of
47 Palm Beach State College, Dr. Gallon will retire June 30, 2015,
48 NOW, THEREFORE,

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50 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
51 Florida:

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53 That the House of Representatives recognizes the
54 outstanding career and achievements of Dennis P. Gallon, Ph.D.,
55 and congratulates him on the occasion of his retirement.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
57 presented to Dr. Dennis P. Gallon as a tangible token of the
58 sentiments expressed herein.