

By Senator Dean

5-03343-16

20161770\_\_

1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2016 as "Springs  
3 Protection Awareness Month" in Florida.

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

8 WHEREAS, the Floridan Aquifer, one of the most productive  
9 in the world, supports more than 700 natural springs, giving  
10 this state the world's highest concentration of springs, and

11 WHEREAS, more than 93 percent of Florida residents rely on  
12 this groundwater supply for their drinking water, and

13 WHEREAS, groundwater plays a vital role in the state's  
14 economy, and

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

20 WHEREAS, springs provide important recreational resources  
21 and opportunities that are enjoyed by residents and visitors  
22 alike, and

23 WHEREAS, Florida's springs discharge more than 19 billion  
24 gallons of fresh water each day, which is essential for  
25 sustaining spring runs and associated receiving water bodies,  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, healthy springs reflect the State of Florida's  
28 commitment to sustain and protect ground and surface water  
29 resources, NOW, THEREFORE,

30  
31 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:  
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33           That April 2016 is recognized as "Springs Protection  
34 Awareness Month" in Florida, and all levels of government are  
35 encouraged to support springs protection, restoration, and  
36 preservation awareness.