

By Senator Braynon

36-00769-16

2016568\_\_

Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
urging Congress to recognize the month of May as  
"Haitian Heritage Month."

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month is held to salute the  
Haitian and Haitian-American communities and to exhibit  
appreciation for their culture and heritage which have  
immeasurably enriched the lives of the people of this nation,  
and

WHEREAS, as educators, authors, community leaders,  
activists, athletes, artists, musicians, and politicians,  
Haitian Americans have made their mark in every facet of society  
and have contributed to the betterment and diversity of this  
nation, and

WHEREAS, the close proximity of Haiti to American shores,  
in conjunction with our common bond of mutual values and  
commitment to democracy, ensures lasting comity of nations and  
continued trade and diplomatic relations, and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1.5 million persons of Haitian  
descent now live throughout this nation, and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson and Congressman  
Kendrick B. Meek, having acknowledged the importance of Haitian  
Americans in this nation's history and diversity, have proposed  
resolutions in the United States House of Representatives to  
recognize the month of May as "Haitian-American Heritage Month"  
in the United States, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

36-00769-16

2016568\_\_

30

31 That the Congress of the United States is urged to  
32 recognize the month of May as "Haitian Heritage Month" and to  
33 encourage the people of this nation to observe Haitian Heritage  
34 Month with appropriate ceremonies, celebrations, and activities.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
36 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
37 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
38 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
39 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.