HR 9027

1 House Resolution 2 A resolution recognizing and celebrating February 3, 2016, as "Florida Agriculture Day." 3 4 5 WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day was established in 1973 6 to increase public awareness of the vital role of agriculture in 7 the United States, and 8 WHEREAS, the world population is expected to reach 9.6 9 billion by 2040, and Florida farmers and ranchers play an 10 increasingly important role in meeting global demands for 11 healthy, wholesome, safe, and nutritious food, and 12 WHEREAS, the agriculture industry is part of the very fabric of this state, fostering ingenuity and preserving 13 Florida's rural character and values, and 14 15 WHEREAS, Florida's more than 47,500 farms produce nearly 300 different commodities on more than 9 million acres of land, 16 17 employing 2 million Floridians, and WHEREAS, Florida is one of the national leaders in 18 19 agriculture, ranking at or near first in the nation in 20 production of oranges, grapefruit, watermelons, sugarcane, 21 squash, and fresh market sweet corn, snap beans, and cucumbers, 22 and WHEREAS, Florida farmers and ranchers are responsible 23 24 stewards of the land, maintaining 9.5 million acres of greenspace and conserving more than 11 billion gallons of fresh 25 water each year, NOW, THEREFORE, 26 Page 1 of 2

hr9027-00

2016

HR 9027

27 28 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 29 Florida: 30 31 That February 3, 2016, is recognized as "Florida 32 Agriculture Day" as part of the larger celebration of "National 33 Agriculture Day," observed on March 15, 2016, in which we honor 34 Florida farmers and ranchers, who produce the safest and most abundant food supply in the world, as well as the researchers, 35 36 entrepreneurs, businesses, and innovators who support farm 37 families and help drive the agriculture economy in this state.