

By Senator Powell

30-03218-17

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 6, 2017, as "FAMU Day"
in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
(FAMU) was founded in 1887, named a land grant institution in
1891, and designated a university in 1953, and

WHEREAS, as a historically black university offering
undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and professional degree
programs, FAMU seeks qualified students from all racial, ethnic,
religious, and national groups and has provided immeasurable
educational opportunities for young men and women, and

WHEREAS, academic components of the university consist of
seven colleges and seven schools: the colleges of Agriculture
and Food Sciences; Education; Engineering; Law; Pharmacy and
Pharmaceutical Sciences; Science and Technology; and Social
Sciences, Arts and Humanities; and the schools of Allied Health
Sciences; Architecture and Engineering Technology; Business and
Industry; the Environment; Graduate Studies and Research;
Journalism and Graphic Communication; and Nursing, and

WHEREAS, FAMU is a leading producer of African-American
graduates with baccalaureate degrees and the top producer of
African-American pharmacists in the nation, and

WHEREAS, FAMU is a leading producer of African-American
Ph.D. graduates in science and engineering, as noted by the
National Science Foundation, and

WHEREAS, nearly 48 percent of FAMU's student body is
pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and
mathematics (STEM) or health-related disciplines, and

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30 WHEREAS, FAMU was recognized among *U.S. News & World*
31 *Report's* "Best National Universities" and was ranked as the top
32 public historically black college or university in the nation
33 for 2017, and, according to *College Choice* (2016), FAMU is one
34 of the top picks for providing a high-quality education at an
35 affordable price in Florida, and

36 WHEREAS, 32 percent of FAMU's students are first-generation
37 college students, and 64 percent receive Pell Grants, more than
38 any other public university in the state, which is a testament
39 to the educational accessibility of the university, and

40 WHEREAS, the FAMU's Women's Athletic Program earned a share
41 of the 2016 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Mary McLeod Bethune
42 Women's All-Sports Award, and, in 2016, the FAMU women's cross
43 country team won its fifth consecutive Mid-Eastern Athletic
44 Conference Cross Country Championship, NOW, THEREFORE,

45
46 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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48 That April 6, 2017, is recognized as "FAMU Day" in Florida.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
50 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Interim
51 President Larry Robinson, Ph.D., as a tangible token of the
52 sentiments of the Florida Senate.