

By Senator Hukill

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution celebrating the 150th anniversary of the
3 founding of Titusville.

4
5 WHEREAS, Titusville was founded in 1867 by Colonel Henry
6 Theodore Titus, who had a vision of building a town stretching
7 down the Indian River, and

8 WHEREAS, at the time of Col. Titus's arrival in an area
9 then known as Sand Point, the only sign of the existence of a
10 developing community was a United States Post Office building,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Col. Titus and his wife, Mary, donated land for
13 the first courthouse and four churches, laid out many of the
14 town's streets, and created a link to the outside world by
15 connecting the St. Johns and Indian Rivers by mule-drawn wagons,
16 and

17 WHEREAS, were it not for Col. Titus's victory in a
18 challenge match of dominoes against Capt. Clark Rice, Titusville
19 might be known today as "Riceville," with Sand Point being
20 renamed after that 1873 match as Titusville, and

21 WHEREAS, the 1880s and 1890s saw the birth of commercial
22 shipments of the famous Indian River Citrus from Dummitt Grove,
23 the establishment of the first bank, two newspapers, a fishing
24 industry, and a railroad connection, and

25 WHEREAS, Titusville's growth accelerated during the early
26 1900s, with the construction of a fire department and the
27 expansion of citywide infrastructure that enabled citizens to
28 travel to beaches and schools with ease, and

29 WHEREAS, in 1927, the Arthur Dunn Airpark opened for mail

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30 service and emergency landings, and

31 WHEREAS, the 1950s and 1960s saw the beginning of space
32 exploration from the John F. Kennedy Space Center, which served
33 as the launching point for NASA's first manned lunar landing in
34 1969, and

35 WHEREAS, the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and
36 Canaveral National Seashore were founded in 1963 and 1975,
37 respectively, to protect some of this state's most valued land
38 and wildlife, and

39 WHEREAS, an abundance of natural treasures makes Titusville
40 the perfect location for birding, the observation of wildlife,
41 and ecotourism, and

42 WHEREAS, the City of Titusville's rich history reflects a
43 balance between economic growth, technological advancement, and
44 the support and protection of wildlife and natural resources,
45 and

46 WHEREAS, the 150th anniversary of the founding of
47 Titusville is being celebrated at a number of sesquicentennial
48 events throughout the year in honor of this milestone, NOW,
49 THEREFORE,

50
51 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

52
53 That this Legislative Body commemorates the 150th
54 anniversary of the founding of the City of Titusville.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
56 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the City of
57 Titusville as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida
58 Senate.