

HR 8003

2017

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution honoring the life and memory of Theresa  
3 Altameze Manuel.

4  
5 WHEREAS, Theresa Altameze Manuel was born on January 7,  
6 1926, in Port Tampa and graduated from Middleton High School,  
7 where she excelled in basketball, and

8 WHEREAS, Theresa Altameze Manuel went on to play basketball  
9 for Tuskegee Institute (now known as Tuskegee University), where  
10 she earned the nickname "Trick Shot" for her great ball-handling  
11 skills, and

12 WHEREAS, Theresa Altameze Manuel also joined the track team  
13 at Tuskegee Institute and, in 1948, became the Association of  
14 American Universities champion in the 50-meter indoor hurdles,  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, while in college, Theresa Altameze Manuel's track  
17 and field team never lost a meet and she led the basketball team  
18 to four straight conference championships, and

19 WHEREAS, because of her phenomenal athletic skills, Theresa  
20 Altameze Manuel, at the age of 22, had the privilege of  
21 representing the United States of America in the 1948 Olympics  
22 in London, running the 80-meter hurdles and the third leg in the  
23 4 X 100 meter relay and competing in the javelin throw, and

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24 WHEREAS, by participating in London in 1948, Theresa  
25 Altameze Manuel became the first African American woman from  
26 Florida to compete in the Olympics, and

27 WHEREAS, upon her return to the United States, Theresa  
28 Altameze Manuel graduated from Tuskegee Institute and returned  
29 to Tampa to become a teacher and coach at Middleton High School  
30 and later at Hillsborough High School, and

31 WHEREAS, during over 38 years, Theresa Altameze Manuel  
32 coached, inspired, and mentored hundreds of young female  
33 athletes in basketball, track, swimming, and the majorettes and  
34 danceterettes, and

35 WHEREAS, Theresa Altameze Manuel received many honors  
36 during her career, including being named Hillsborough County  
37 Coach of the Year in 1975 and Florida Coach of the Year in 1976,  
38 being inducted into the Tuskegee Hall of Fame, and being the  
39 first African American woman to be inducted into the Tampa  
40 Sports Hall of Fame, and

41 WHEREAS, on November 21, 2016, at the age of 90, Theresa  
42 Altameze Manuel, the woman who soared in life and athletics,  
43 left this world, NOW, THEREFORE,

44

45 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
46 Florida:

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48           That the Florida House of Representatives honors the memory  
49 of Theresa Altameze Manuel, a woman who served as a role model  
50 for all who knew her and who will continue to live in the hearts  
51 of the people she met.

52           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
53 presented to the family of Theresa Altameze Manuel as a tangible  
54 token of the sentiments expressed herein.