

By Senator Campbell

38-01386A-18

20181832\_\_

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the City of Miami Beach on the 103rd anniversary of its incorporation as a municipality.

WHEREAS, in 1870, Henry Lum and his son, Charles, arrived by sailboat on a large sandbar off the southeast coast of Florida, and were so impressed by the island that they bought most of the property, along with land further north, paying the federal government 75 cents an acre, and

WHEREAS, Henry Lum later sold the property to fellow New Jersey natives Elnathan Field and Ezra Osborn, who began a coconut plantation along the shore, but ultimately sold their land to John S. Collins and his son-in-law, Thomas Pancoast, who were also from New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, in 1913, avocado grower and investor John S. Collins teamed up with auto parts entrepreneur and Indianapolis Motor Speedway developer Carl G. Fisher for the funding and construction of the first bridge from Miami to Miami Beach, a project that, at the time, was the world's longest wooden bridge and which set the stage for the area's real estate boom, and

WHEREAS, Miami Beach was officially incorporated on March 26, 1915, and it experienced remarkable growth in the years that followed, including major oceanfront resorts that beckoned to tourists, and

WHEREAS, during the Great Depression and afterward, new investor groups from the Northeast built smaller hotels along lower Collins Avenue and Ocean Drive and, some 70 years later, this famous Art Deco District forms a signature part of the

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30 city's architectural and business history, and

31 WHEREAS, the 1959 communist revolution in Cuba brought  
32 change to South Florida, as more than 500,000 Cubans fled their  
33 homeland to escape the cruel reign of dictator Fidel Castro and,  
34 with their arrival, enriched the cultural fabric of Miami Beach,  
35 which has also welcomed immigrants from Latin America, the  
36 Caribbean, and beyond, and

37 WHEREAS, in more recent decades, the City of Miami Beach  
38 has benefited from additional investment capital and commercial  
39 real estate growth, an expanding population, and important  
40 transportation improvements, ensuring its continued success as a  
41 business, trade, and tourism destination that has few rivals,  
42 and

43 WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach is led by Mayor Dan  
44 Gelber; Commissioners Micky Steinberg, Mark Samuelian, Michael  
45 Góngora, Kristen Rosen Gonzales, Ricky Arriola, and John  
46 Elizabeth Alemán; and City Manager Jimmy L. Morales, NOW,  
47 THEREFORE,

48

49 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

50

51 That the City of Miami Beach is recognized on the 103rd  
52 anniversary of its incorporation as a municipality.