

By Senator Jones

35-01829C-22

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing February 24, 2022, as "FAMU Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), this state's only public historically black college and university (HBCU) institution, was founded on October 3, 1887, named a land-grant institution in 1891, and designated a university in 1953, and

WHEREAS, academic components of the university consist of more than 95 undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, and professional degree programs, 7 colleges, and 7 schools, including 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, under the leadership and commitment of President Larry Robinson, Ph.D., and the FAMU Board of Trustees, FAMU is dedicated to providing an exceptional student experience and remains the highest-ranked public HBCU for the third consecutive year, moving up 13 places to reach 104th in the nation and 13th on the list of top performers in social mobility, according to the *U.S. News & World Report* 2022 Best Colleges Ranking of Top Public Universities, and

WHEREAS, with more than 9,000 students, 80,000 alumni, and the top-ranked HBCU engineering program, the FAMU-FSU College of

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30 Engineering, FAMU is the leading provider of degrees to African-  
31 American graduates in several disciplines at the baccalaureate,  
32 professional, and graduate levels, and

33 WHEREAS, during the 2021-2022 academic year, FAMU continues  
34 to elevate student success through retention, graduation rates,  
35 and degree productivity and in the 2020-2021 academic year  
36 awarded 2,098 degrees, and

37 WHEREAS, FAMU achieved its highest-ever total points under  
38 the Florida Board of Governors' Performance-Based Funding model,  
39 scoring 79, up from 73 in 2020, and

40 WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 FAMU Student Bar Association  
41 celebrated the 20th anniversary of the FAMU Law School with a  
42 student-led preservation initiative to rename Beggs Avenue as  
43 FAMU Law Lane, and

44 WHEREAS, with 14 National Collegiate Athletic Association  
45 (NCAA) programs, FAMU became the first team in 24 years in the  
46 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) to be selected for the  
47 NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision playoffs; six  
48 FAMU football players were named BOXTOROW All-Americans, the  
49 most of any HBCU in the nation; and FAMU earned national  
50 recognition by being ranked 25th in the CBS Week 11 Football  
51 Championship Subdivision Power Rankings, and

52 WHEREAS, FAMU Women's Volleyball Team won the 2021 SWAC  
53 Volleyball Tournament Championship and qualified for the 2021  
54 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship for the first  
55 time in 12 years, and

56 WHEREAS, School of Journalism Professor Kenneth Jones  
57 released his third independent movie, "My Music," in honor of  
58 National Family Caregivers Month, which debuted at the 2019

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59 Sedona Film Festival, and David Teek, a coordinator in the  
60 Office of Technology Transfer and Export Control, co-wrote and  
61 co-produced "Woman in Motion," which was screened for the  
62 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and

63 WHEREAS, FAMU's Center for International Agricultural Trade  
64 Development Research and Training will help lead global efforts  
65 to advance production, handling, and consumption of fruits and  
66 vegetables as part of a 5-year initiative with the United States  
67 Agency for International Development's Feed the Future  
68 Innovation Lab for Horticulture, and

69 WHEREAS, FAMU has partnered with the Chevron Corporation  
70 and the Fab Foundation to create a digital fabrication lab at  
71 the FAMU Developmental Research School to foster student  
72 innovation, learning, and invention in the Tallahassee area, and

73 WHEREAS, since April 25, 2020, FAMU's free COVID-19 testing  
74 and vaccination site has served the Big Bend, addressing vaccine  
75 hesitancy and providing more than 550,000 tests and 23,000  
76 vaccines, and workers at the site were collectively recognized  
77 as the *Tallahassee Democrat's* 2021 "Person of the Year," NOW,  
78 THEREFORE,

79

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

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82 That February 24, 2022, is recognized as "FAMU Day" in  
83 Florida.