

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

House Resolution

A resolution designating February 15, 2022, as "Gator Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is among the nation's top public universities, ranking fifth among all public universities in the 2022 U.S. News & World Report, and

WHEREAS, for the first time in 2021, U.S. News and World Report ranked the university on the prestigious list of the nation's most innovative universities as well as among the top schools for undergraduate research and veterans, and

WHEREAS, UF Online, the University of Florida's online bachelor's degree program, is ranked first in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, recognizing the university's continued excellence in delivering world-class educational opportunities to all students by removing barriers limiting educational access, and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida's faculty conducted a record \$960 million in research during the 2021 fiscal year and continues to play a significant role in advancing the fundamental understanding of the universe, generating innovative research centered on agriculture, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity, and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is on the forefront of artificial intelligence research and education with the

HR 8027

2022

26 | installation of HiPerGator AI, one of higher education's most
27 | powerful artificial intelligence supercomputers, and is the
28 | first institution to adopt an "AI Across the Curriculum"
29 | approach, providing every student in every major the opportunity
30 | to acquire competence and expertise in AI and Data Science, and

31 | WHEREAS, the University of Florida continues to pursue a
32 | strategy that will uniquely position the state as a destination
33 | for AI-related industries, taking part in the newly established
34 | SEC Artificial Intelligence Consortium, a 14-member university
35 | consortium aimed at sharing educational resources, certificate
36 | and degree program structures, and online seminars and courses
37 | centered around artificial intelligence and data science, and

38 | WHEREAS, the University of Florida's UF Innovate incubation
39 | facilities have helped launch nearly 300 companies, of which 64
40 | percent remain in the state and 38 percent in Alachua County,
41 | and 12 percent of the state's biotech companies have originated
42 | in UF Innovate's incubation facilities creating more than 7,900
43 | jobs with an average annual salary of \$79,200, generating over
44 | twelve billion dollars in private investment, and

45 | WHEREAS, the University of Florida Lastinger Center, in
46 | collaboration with the Florida Department of Education, school
47 | districts, other local and state organizations, and the support
48 | of the Legislature, have successfully implemented the New Worlds
49 | Reading Initiative, a free book delivery program that mails a
50 | monthly book to each eligible K-5 student in the state to help

51 students achieve their potential through the power of reading,
 52 and

53 WHEREAS, University of Florida Health (UF Health) is a top-
 54 ranked health care destination that attracts the brightest
 55 students, scholars, scientists, and health care providers, all
 56 ready to tackle medicine's greatest challenges, being uniquely
 57 positioned at the forefront of medicine, UF Health has continued
 58 making discoveries leading to clinical breakthroughs,
 59 contributing to the state's overall economy, and

60 WHEREAS, current and former University of Florida athletes
 61 represented the United States during the Tokyo 2020 Summer
 62 Olympics, winning 17 medals-tied for the second-highest medal
 63 count in the school's history, ranking second among all National
 64 Collegiate Athletic Association schools in medals won, and

65 WHEREAS, the University of Florida Athletics Program
 66 continues its on-field and in-the-classroom success, becoming
 67 the only program to finish among the nation's top ten in each of
 68 the last 37 national all-sports standings and the only school
 69 with 100 or more academic all-SEC honorees in the last 24
 70 seasons, NOW, THEREFORE,

71
 72 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 73 Florida:

74
 75 That the University of Florida is commended and

HR 8027

2022

76 | congratulated for its dedication to the advancement of the State
77 | of Florida and on its rise to fifth among all public
78 | universities in the 2022 U.S. News & World Report Top Public
79 | Schools, and that February 15, 2022, is recognized as "Gator
80 | Day" in Florida.

81 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
82 | presented to University of Florida President Dr. W. Kent Fuchs
83 | as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.