

HR 8057

2022

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing Beth Switzer for her  
3 dedicated service as the Executive Director of the  
4 Florida Channel.

5  
6 WHEREAS, Beth Switzer began working at WFSU-TV in 1984 and  
7 continued working as a reporter and producer at the station  
8 until 1997, producing and hosting a variety of programs,  
9 including arts and public affairs programs and Florida Face to  
10 Face, a long-running statewide interview program, and

11 WHEREAS, in 1997, Beth Switzer accepted the position of  
12 Executive Director at WFSU-TV to oversee a new contract  
13 overseeing management of the Florida Channel, which has grown  
14 into one of the most comprehensive public affairs programming  
15 service operations in the nation, and

16 WHEREAS, the Florida Channel now provides coverage of all  
17 three branches of state government and produces over 2,500 hours  
18 of coverage a year, and a statewide documentary series, Florida  
19 Crossroads, and

20 WHEREAS, within that coverage, the Florida Channel provides  
21 gavel-to-gavel coverage of all Organization, Regular, and  
22 Special Legislative Sessions, including committee meetings,  
23 opening day, and Sine Die; countless briefings during state  
24 emergencies from the State Emergency Operations Center;  
25 inaugurations, including swearing-in ceremonies of the Governor

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26 | and statewide elected Cabinet members; the annual State of the  
27 | State Address; meetings of the Governor and Cabinet; Florida  
28 | Supreme Court oral arguments; and various news conferences with  
29 | Florida's statewide elected leaders, and

30 |       WHEREAS, in 2002, the Florida Channel's reach expanded  
31 | again with the creation and deployment of a remote events team,  
32 | the channel's first team of reporters and staff to cover state  
33 | government meetings held outside of Tallahassee to be aired at a  
34 | later date, an effort that has since grown into several teams  
35 | that crisscross the state to ensure comprehensive coverage from  
36 | Pensacola to Key West, and

37 |       WHEREAS, through her leadership, Beth Switzer helped create  
38 | a state-of-the-art public affairs programming service that  
39 | serves as Florida's primary source for live, unedited coverage  
40 | of our state government, providing real-time access for those  
41 | tuning in, and

42 |       WHEREAS, throughout the years, Beth Switzer has ensured  
43 | that the Florida Channel continues to evolve to suit the  
44 | technology of the time, installing robotic cameras in many  
45 | Capitol meeting rooms and, in 2014, streaming its content  
46 | online, providing both Florida residents and others around the  
47 | world with instant access to the state's business, and

48 |       WHEREAS, the Florida Channel, as guided by Beth Switzer and  
49 | her team, has been an invaluable tool to those in a wide variety

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50 | of professions involved in the process of governing and to the  
51 | residents of the state, NOW, THEREFORE,

52 |

53 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
54 | Florida:

55 |

56 |         That Beth Switzer is recognized for decades of diligent  
57 | work as the Executive Director of the Florida Channel and is  
58 | sincerely thanked for her service to the residents of Florida.

59 |         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
60 | presented to Beth Switzer as a tangible token of the sentiments  
61 | expressed herein.