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House Resolution

A resolution designating May 2022 as "Haitian Heritage Month" in the State of Florida.

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month is celebrated by the Haitian diaspora around the world to celebrate Haitian heritage and culture, and

WHEREAS, as educators, authors, entrepreneurs, community leaders, activists, athletes, artists, musicians, and politicians, Haitian Americans have made their mark and have contributed to the betterment and diversity of this state and the nation, and

WHEREAS, Haiti was the world's first Black-led republic and the first independent Caribbean state, and

WHEREAS, Haiti is the only country born of a successful revolt of enslaved people declaring their independence and affirming their humanity, and

WHEREAS, May 18 is Flag Day in Haiti, and

WHEREAS, the United States and the State of Florida have thrived as a melding of immigrants, united by common values and the promise of a better tomorrow, and

WHEREAS, according to the Migration Policy Institute, more than two-thirds of Haitian immigrants living in the United States reside in Florida and New York, and

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25 WHEREAS, there are significant populations of Haitian-
 26 Americans in New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland, Virginia,
 27 Pennsylvania, Georgia, New Hampshire, Illinois, Texas, and
 28 Washington, D.C., and

29 WHEREAS, there is a strong connection between Haitians and
 30 Florida, including hundreds of thousands of Haitian-Americans
 31 residing in South Florida alone, NOW, THEREFORE,

32
 33 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 34 Florida:

35
 36 That May 2022 is designated as "Haitian Heritage Month" in
 37 the State of Florida, and all communities and individuals
 38 throughout the state and nation are encouraged to honor Haitian
 39 and Haitian-American culture and remember that America's
 40 greatness lies in its diversity.