

By Senator Avila

39-00230-24

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing The Everglades Foundation for 30 years of service in the protection and restoration of the Everglades and for its commitment to public education and advocacy.

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1994, The Everglades Foundation has been a leading voice for protection and restoration of the Everglades and is the only science-based nonprofit dedicated solely to advocacy for and public education regarding one of the world's most unique ecosystems, and

WHEREAS, The Everglades Foundation aims to restore water flow to South Florida and water quality within the Everglades, to ensure the sustainability of a restored Everglades as a healthy and protected ecosystem capable of supporting abundant plant, animal, and human life, and to ensure the fiscal sustainability of the foundation and its mission, and

WHEREAS, the foundation's Everglades Literacy Program curriculum promotes a secure future for one of the world's most remarkable, yet threatened, natural environments by educating and empowering K-12 teachers and students, and

WHEREAS, the Everglades' natural habitats cover an area of almost 18,000 square miles, from the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes down to Lake Okeechobee, through the river of grass, and down to Florida Bay and the iconic Florida Keys, and

WHEREAS, Everglades National Park is home to 36 threatened or protected species, including the Florida panther, the American crocodile, and the West Indian manatee, along with 350 species of birds, 300 species of fresh and saltwater fish, 40

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30 species of mammals, and 50 species of reptiles, and

31 WHEREAS, The Everglades Foundation remains dedicated to

32 preserving the Everglades for future generations, NOW,

33 THEREFORE,

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

36

37 That The Everglades Foundation is recognized for 30 years

38 of service in the protection and restoration of the Everglades

39 and for its commitment to public education and advocacy.