

By Senator Simon

3-02385-25

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Senate Resolution

A resolution commending Florida State University for its achievements as a national leader in academic and research excellence and designating March 19, 2025, as FSU Day at the Capitol.

WHEREAS, the Tallahassee campus of Florida State University (FSU) was founded in 1851 as the West Florida Seminary and is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, FSU has been recognized as a preeminent university by the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, FSU has reached a historic milestone, earning its highest academic ranking ever at No. 10 in Niche's report of Top Public Universities in America, and has been recognized by Princeton Review as the No. 1 public university for student satisfaction, and

WHEREAS, FSU is recognized as a national leader in student success, with a first-year student retention rate of 96 percent and a 4-year graduation rate of 76 percent, placing FSU in the top 10 among all public universities in the nation in both categories, and

WHEREAS, FSU's research expenditures have reached an all-time high of \$460.7 million as the university paves the way for world-changing discoveries and launches bold new initiatives, such as FSU Health and the Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases, which make a difference in people's lives and contribute to the economies of our state and nation, and

WHEREAS, FSU is the headquarters of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, the only national laboratory in

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30 Florida and home to the most powerful magnets in the world,  
31 which generates \$709 million in economic output and supports  
32 4,550 jobs, and

33 WHEREAS, FSU offers undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and  
34 professional degrees in 272 programs within 17 colleges, taught  
35 by a faculty of 2,760, which has included members of the  
36 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and  
37 the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and six Nobel  
38 Laureates, and has a student-faculty ratio of 17-to-1, meaning  
39 that more than 65 percent of FSU's classes have fewer than 20  
40 students, and

41 WHEREAS, FSU's 2024-2025 freshman class is one of the  
42 brightest in the university's history, with students coming from  
43 all 67 Florida counties, all 50 states, and 48 countries and  
44 entering FSU with an average GPA of 4.3, SAT score of 1350, and  
45 ACT score of 30, and 76 percent of whom were among the top 10  
46 percent of their high school class, and

47 WHEREAS, FSU is ranked 10th in the nation for study abroad  
48 enrollment and has a rich history of supporting learning and  
49 scholarship programs around the world, with exceptional study  
50 centers in London, Florence, and Valencia and a branch campus in  
51 the Republic of Panama, which provide transformative educational  
52 experiences to thousands of students across nearly every  
53 academic discipline offered at FSU, and

54 WHEREAS, FSU shares a special relationship with the  
55 Seminole Tribe of Florida which is built on respect, trust, and  
56 collaboration and which celebrates the tribe's rich history and  
57 culture while supporting educational opportunities and  
58 initiatives that strengthen this enduring partnership, and

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59 WHEREAS, FSU boasts a network of more than 400,000 alumni  
60 who are making a difference in their communities across Florida  
61 and around the world and demonstrating the university's  
62 commitment to producing graduates who lead and serve, and

63 WHEREAS, in 2024, the FSU baseball team reached the College  
64 World Series for the 24th time, the women's soccer team won its  
65 11th Atlantic Coast Conference championship, and, in the annual  
66 Director's Cup standings, which measure the overall strength of  
67 athletic programs, the Seminoles ranked 12th in the nation -  
68 FSU's highest ranking in 5 years, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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72 That the Florida Senate hereby designates March 19, 2025,  
73 as FSU Day in Florida in recognition of Florida State  
74 University's contribution as an outstanding institution of  
75 higher education.

76 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with  
77 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Richard  
78 McCullough, Ph.D., the 16th President of Florida State  
79 University, as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida  
80 Senate.