

HR 8003

2025

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating March 11, 2025, as "Puerto
3 Rico Day in Tallahassee" at the State Capitol and
4 recognizing the significant contributions of Puerto
5 Ricans to Florida's cultural mosaic.

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7 WHEREAS, Florida is home to nearly 1.2 million proud Puerto
8 Rican United States citizens, fostering a sense of unity and
9 shared identity with fellow Americans, and

10 WHEREAS, Florida embraces a diverse population, including a
11 thriving Puerto Rican community that contributes substantially
12 to our state, and

13 WHEREAS, the storied history of Puerto Rico includes the
14 Spanish American War, when the island became a territory of the
15 United States in 1898, shaping its relationship with the
16 mainland, and

17 WHEREAS, Puerto Ricans became United States citizens under
18 the Jones-Shafroth Act in 1917, contributing to the historical
19 ties between Puerto Rico and the United States, and

20 WHEREAS, Puerto Rico, as a Commonwealth of the United
21 States since 1952, holds a unique status that contributes to its
22 distinctive cultural identity, and

23 WHEREAS, the distinguished service of the 65th Infantry
24 Regiment, known as the "Borinqueneers," during various
25 conflicts, earned them the Congressional Gold Medal, making them

26 | the first Hispanic American unit to receive the award,
27 | showcasing their valor and dedication to the United States, and

28 | WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has made remarkable achievements in
29 | art, with renowned artists like Francisco Oller, a leading
30 | figure in the 19th-century art movement, contributing to the
31 | cultural landscape, and

32 | WHEREAS, Puerto Rico has made significant contributions to
33 | science, with notable figures like Dr. Antonia Novello, who
34 | served as the 14th Surgeon General of the United States, leading
35 | groundbreaking advancements in public health, and

36 | WHEREAS, the island's rich sports legacy, epitomized by
37 | legendary figures like Roberto Clemente Walker, a humanitarian
38 | and baseball Hall of Famer, with more than 40 schools and 200
39 | parks named in his honor, has left an enduring impact on the
40 | world of athletics, and

41 | WHEREAS, Puerto Ricans have made significant contributions
42 | to Florida's political landscape, exemplified by leaders such as
43 | Anthony Suarez, a former Member of the Florida House of
44 | Representatives, who pioneered the first Puerto Rico Day at the
45 | Florida State Capitol in 2000, establishing a tradition of
46 | honoring Puerto Rican heritage and political influence, and

47 | WHEREAS, the cultural exchange between Puerto Rico and
48 | Florida has strengthened the bonds of friendship and cooperation
49 | and has enhanced the overall well-being of our communities, and

50 | WHEREAS, the celebration of Puerto Rican Day in Tallahassee

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51 offers an opportunity to recognize and celebrate Puerto Rico's
52 rich cultural history, traditions, and achievements, fostering
53 unity among all Floridians, NOW, THEREFORE,

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55 Be It Resolved by the Florida House of Representatives:

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57 That March 11, 2025, is designated as "Puerto Rico Day in
58 Tallahassee" at the State Capitol, recognizing the significant
59 contributions of Puerto Ricans to Florida's cultural mosaic.