

HR 8075

2025

## House Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 18, 2025, as the 250th anniversary of the alarm riders' midnight ride and the beginning of the commemorations of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America.

WHEREAS, the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation is a significant milestone and a relevant reminder of our founding principles and ideals as a nation, which have endured for 250 years as our unique national identity, and

WHEREAS, the events of 1775 that began the American Revolution a year before independence was declared are significant moments that signaled the creation of a sovereign identity and unity of purpose that transcended traditional geographic, cultural, and societal divides, and

WHEREAS, individuals and communities across all the colonies came together to support their fellow countrymen, and

WHEREAS, on the evening of April 18, 1775, with impending hostile action from the British army in Boston, Massachusetts, Paul Revere and William Dawes, along with other alarm riders, undertook a perilous ride to alert everyone in the countryside of the coming danger, and

WHEREAS, before their departure from Boston, a prearranged signal was set in the Old North Church steeple to ensure that

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the message was relayed and did not solely depend on the alarm riders, and

WHEREAS, the two lanterns that were the signal, immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "Paul Revere's Ride" as "One, if by land, and two, if by sea," have become an enduring symbol of American vigilance, perseverance, and preparedness in the face of adversity, and

WHEREAS, those alarm riders and the citizens that answered the call to arms to serve and defend their fellow countrymen that night and the following day at the Battles of Lexington and Concord exemplify the spirit of community and shared responsibility that has defined our nation since its inception, and

WHEREAS, the people of Florida became a part of that legacy of freedom, bravery, and service when Florida became the 27th state of the United States of America on March 3, 1845, and

WHEREAS, 250 years after the fateful and perilous ride of Paul Revere and William Dawes, we are reminded that the call for unity and mutual service remains as relevant today as it was then, and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2025, the Two Lights for Tomorrow Initiative and people all across the nation will gather to honor the bravery and sacrifice of the alarm riders and their midnight ride by displaying two lights for all to see, marking the beginning of the 250th anniversary commemorations that will

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51 culminate with a celebration honoring the 250th anniversary of  
52 the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026,  
53 NOW, THEREFORE,

54  
55 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
56 Florida:

57  
58       That April 18, 2025, is recognized as the 250th anniversary  
59 of the alarm riders' midnight ride and the beginning of the  
60 commemorations of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the  
61 United States of America.