

By Senator Rodriguez

40-01486-25

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to Celia Cruz Day; creating s. 683.27,
3 F.S.; designating October 21 of each year as "Celia
4 Cruz Day" in Florida; providing an effective date.

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6 WHEREAS, Celia Cruz, internationally known as the "Queen of
7 Salsa," was born on October 21, 1925, in Cuba, where West
8 African and European traditions merged to create a rich musical
9 climate that allowed Celia Cruz to become a musical talent with
10 a fluid, diverse repertoire, and

11 WHEREAS, in 1950, Celia Cruz joined the orchestra La Sonora
12 Matancera and, in her 15 years with La Sonora Matancera,
13 recorded 188 songs, one of which, "Burundanga," won Celia her
14 first gold record, and

15 WHEREAS, Celia Cruz was bestowed many national and state
16 honors, including the National Medal of Arts in 1994; the Grammy
17 Award in 1990, 2003, and 2004; the Latin Grammy Award in 2000,
18 2001, 2002, and 2004; the Aplauso 92 Award for Best Latin Female
19 Vocalist in 1989, 1991, and 1992; the Lo Nuestro Excellence
20 Award in 1990; the Billboard Latin Music Hall of Fame Honor in
21 1994; the Andalusia Award for Universal Artist in 1996; the
22 Telemundo Network Artist of the Millennium Award in 1999; and
23 the Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award posthumously,
24 in 2016, and

25 WHEREAS, Celia Cruz received a star on the "Hollywood Walk
26 of Fame" in Hollywood and the "Calle Ocho Walk of Fame" in
27 Miami, and she was also awarded honorary doctoral degrees from
28 the Florida International University and the University of
29 Miami, and

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30 WHEREAS, most recently, a collectible Barbie doll that
31 commemorates Celia Cruz was released, and

32 WHEREAS, Celia Cruz's image appeared on the Forever Latin
33 Music Legends stamps issued by the United States Postal Service
34 in 2011, and she is the first Afro-Latina to be featured on a
35 United States currency, the 2024 quarter, NOW, THEREFORE,

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37 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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39 Section 1. Section 683.27, Florida Statutes, is created to
40 read:

41 683.27 Celia Cruz Day.—October 21 of each year is hereby
42 designated as "Celia Cruz Day" in the state.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.