

By Senator Simon

3-02373-26

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Senate Resolution

A resolution commending Tallahassee State College for its consistent excellence and ongoing commitment to student success and designating February 12, 2026, as "Tallahassee State College Day."

WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College, originally established in 1966 as Tallahassee Junior College and known as Tallahassee Community College from 1970 to 2024, was founded to provide access to high-quality education for the residents of Leon, Gadsden, and Wakulla Counties, and

WHEREAS, now in its 60th year, Tallahassee State College remains steadfast in its mission to provide a learning environment that prepares students for success in a global economy by offering higher education pathways, workforce opportunities, and civic engagement, and

WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College is a proud member of the esteemed Florida College System, also known as the "Great 28," which has helped Florida earn the distinction of being the No. 1 state for higher education every year since *U.S. News & World Report* began such a ranking in 2017, and

WHEREAS, in 2025, Tallahassee State College welcomed more than 17,000 credit, noncredit, and continuing education students, with nearly 60 percent coming from outside the college's service district, drawn by the strength of its more than 100 academic and workforce programs, and

WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College is the leading transfer institution to Florida State University and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, helping thousands of students

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30 successfully continue their education and complete bachelor's
31 degrees, and

32 WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College was recognized as the
33 No. 1 Best Value College in Florida and No. 2 Best Value College
34 in the United States by Research.com in its 2026 rankings,
35 reflecting the college's strategic commitment to access and
36 affordability, and

37 WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College is celebrating the 50th
38 anniversary of its dental programs, which have helped educate
39 and prepare generations of oral health professionals in the
40 region and state, and

41 WHEREAS, in partnership with the Florida Dental
42 Association, Tallahassee State College launched the Restorative
43 Functions for Dental Auxiliaries Certification Program, and the
44 college's dental hygiene program has been designated as an
45 official American Board of Dental Examiners testing site for the
46 dental hygiene licensure exam, and

47 WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College was named the 2025
48 Entrepreneurial College of the Year by the National Association
49 of Community College Entrepreneurship, recognizing the college's
50 leadership in innovation, community partnerships, and efforts to
51 foster entrepreneurial thinking, and

52 WHEREAS, Tallahassee State College serves as a powerful
53 economic engine for the region, generating an estimated \$296.5
54 million in annual economic impact, and supports 1 out of every
55 64 local jobs across the region, NOW, THEREFORE,

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57 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:
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59 That February 12, 2026, is designated as "Tallahassee State
60 College Day" in commendation of its consistent excellence and
61 ongoing commitment to student success.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
63 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Dr. Jim
64 Murdaugh, the sixth President of Tallahassee State College, as a
65 tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.