

By Senator Burton

12-02823A-26

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing February 17, 2026, as
3 "Florida Polytechnic University Day" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University is designated as
6 Florida's only public university exclusively dedicated to
7 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), with a
8 mission focused on innovation, applied research, and high-demand
9 workforce preparation, and

10 WHEREAS, spanning a 170-acre campus in Lakeland, Florida
11 Polytechnic University has 14 undergraduate and 5 graduate
12 programs, and provides a world-class academic environment
13 through its innovative curriculum, undergraduate research
14 opportunities, and interdisciplinary programs that prepare
15 students for success in a global economy, and

16 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University has been ranked the
17 No. 1 public college in the South for 5 years running by *U.S.*
18 *News & World Report*, which also ranks the University among the
19 top 30 nationally for public engineering programs without a
20 Ph.D., and

21 WHEREAS, according to Research.com, Florida Polytechnic
22 University has the No. 1 computer science program in Florida
23 among public universities, and its data science program is
24 ranked among the top 20 in the United States, and

25 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University's graduates
26 consistently achieve high job placement rates and competitive
27 starting salaries in such critical fields as cybersecurity,
28 advanced manufacturing, robotics, engineering, and data science,
29 contributing directly to Florida's growing technology economy,

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30 and

31 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University's commitment to
32 experiential learning, industry partnerships, and
33 entrepreneurial thinking equips graduates with the skills and
34 technical expertise necessary to excel in cutting-edge fields,
35 and

36 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University fosters a culture
37 of innovation and collaboration with business, industry, and
38 government to support economic development and job creation
39 across Florida and beyond, and

40 WHEREAS, the University's research initiatives and modern
41 facilities have strengthened Florida's position as a hub for
42 technology development, advanced manufacturing, and high-growth
43 businesses, and

44 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University continues to
45 attract distinguished faculty and high-achieving students from
46 across Florida, the nation, and the world, expanding the state's
47 intellectual capital and contributing to a skilled STEM
48 workforce, and

49 WHEREAS, Florida Polytechnic University's students,
50 faculty, and alumni have earned recognition for academic
51 excellence, research contributions, competitive team
52 achievements, and community engagement, and

53 WHEREAS, the success and growth of Florida Polytechnic
54 University enhance Florida's reputation for higher education
55 excellence and strengthen opportunities for innovation-driven
56 careers and industries in the 21st century, NOW, THEREFORE,

57
58 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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60 That the Senate recognizes February 17, 2026, as "Florida
61 Polytechnic University Day" and commends the University for its
62 contributions to science, technology, engineering, and
63 mathematics education, research, and economic advancement.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
65 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Dr. Devin
66 Stephenson, president of Florida Polytechnic University, as a
67 tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.