

HR 8003

2026

## House Resolution

A resolution designating January 21, 2026, as "FSU Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the Tallahassee campus of Florida State University, founded in 1851, is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2026 with a yearlong commemoration that honors its heritage, celebrates its achievements, and highlights its vision for the future, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University is proud to be recognized as a Preeminent University by the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University is a leading national research university, offering undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and professional degrees and is composed of 17 colleges, more than 46,000 students, 16,000 full- and part-time employees, and a global footprint that includes study centers in London, Florence, Valencia, and Panama and is ranked as the nation's No. 1 public university for long-term study abroad enrollments, and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of President Richard McCullough, Florida State University has reached new heights in national recognition, rising to No. 21 among public universities and achieving its highest-ever overall ranking of No. 51 among all institutions from U.S. News & World Report, as well as

HR 8003

2026

26 earning a No. 11 rank in Niche's report of Top Public  
27 Universities in America, with multiple academic programs ranked  
28 in the national Top 10, and

29 WHEREAS, Florida State University is recognized as a leader  
30 in student success, with a first-year student retention rate of  
31 97 percent and a four-year graduation rate of 78 percent, both  
32 among the highest in the nation, and a transfer graduation of 80  
33 percent, the best in the history of the State University System,  
34 and

35 WHEREAS, Florida State University's summer/fall 2025  
36 enrolled freshman class is one of the brightest in the  
37 university's history, coming from all 67 Florida counties, all  
38 50 states, and 50 countries, and 77 percent achieving top grades  
39 in rigorous high school courses and collectively had an average  
40 core GPA between 4.2 and 4.6, combined SAT score between 1340  
41 and 1450 and ACT composite score between 30 and 33, and

42 WHEREAS, the faculty of Florida State University achieved a  
43 record \$487 million in research expenditures in 2025 and  
44 submitted more than \$1.22 billion in competitive grant  
45 proposals, expanding discovery in areas of strategic importance  
46 to Florida and central to America's innovation agenda, including  
47 quantum science, superconductivity, artificial intelligence,  
48 aerospace, and advanced manufacturing, and

49 WHEREAS, FSU Health is advancing a transformative vision to  
50 integrate education, research, and patient care to improve lives

HR 8003

2026

51 through initiatives such as the Florida Institute for Pediatric  
52 Rare Diseases and Sunshine Genetics, demonstrating leadership  
53 and strengthening collaboration to address critical health  
54 challenges, and

55 WHEREAS, Florida State University is the home of the  
56 National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, the only national  
57 laboratory in Florida, which generates major scientific  
58 breakthroughs and adds significant economic impact to the state,  
59 and

60 WHEREAS, Florida State University contributes an estimated  
61 \$15 billion in statewide economic impact each year,  
62 strengthening Florida's workforce, expanding opportunity, and  
63 improving lives across every region, and

64 WHEREAS, Florida State University is honored to share a  
65 special relationship with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, built  
66 on respect, trust, and collaboration, celebrating the Tribe's  
67 rich history and culture while supporting educational  
68 opportunities and initiatives that strengthen this enduring  
69 partnership, and

70 WHEREAS, Florida State University boasts a network of more  
71 than 450,000 alumni who are making a difference in their  
72 communities across Florida and around the world and  
73 demonstrating the university's commitment to producing graduates  
74 who lead and serve, and

HR 8003

2026

75        WHEREAS, the Florida State University women's soccer team  
76        won its fifth national championship in 2025, the baseball and  
77        beach volleyball teams rank in the Top 10 nationally, and FSU's  
78        student-athletes achieved a record 91 percent graduation rate,  
79        NOW, THEREFORE,

80

81        Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
82        Florida:

83

84        That January 21, 2026, is designated as "FSU Day" in  
85        Florida in recognition of Florida State University's  
86        contribution as an outstanding institution of higher education.

87        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
88        presented to Dr. Richard McCullough, the 16th President of  
89        Florida State University, as a tangible token of the sentiments  
90        expressed herein.