

HR 8059

2026

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing the 175th anniversary of the  
3 Young Men's Christian Association.  
4

5 WHEREAS, for 175 years, the Young Men's Christian  
6 Association or the "YMCA" has been the heartbeat of community,  
7 dedicated to giving people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks  
8 of life the opportunity to reach their full potential with  
9 dignity, where strangers become friends and every generation  
10 finds a place to belong, and

11 WHEREAS, in 1851, the YMCA was founded in the United States  
12 by Captain Thomas Valentine Sullivan, an American seaman and  
13 missionary, who was inspired by the YMCA movement in England,  
14 with a mission to put Christian principles into practice through  
15 programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all,  
16 guided by core values of caring, honesty, respect, and  
17 responsibility, and

18 WHEREAS, from 1851 to today, the YMCA has continually  
19 adapted to meet the evolving needs of American communities,  
20 strengthening society by nurturing the potential of every child  
21 and teen; improving the nation's health and well-being; bringing  
22 people together across differences in age, income, and  
23 background; fostering relationships; and creating a sense of  
24 belonging, and

25 WHEREAS, today, the YMCA has nearly 2,600 locations  
 26 nationwide, serving more than 10,000 communities, with more than  
 27 350,000 volunteers, delivering various programs to over 17  
 28 million people, including almost 11 million adults and 6.5  
 29 million children and youth, and

30 WHEREAS, in Florida, the YMCA operates through multiple  
 31 associations serving communities across the state, where 1 out  
 32 of every 18 Florida residents is involved in the YMCA, providing  
 33 youth enrichment opportunities, promoting health and wellness,  
 34 building partnerships, and encouraging volunteerism, and

35 WHEREAS, the YMCA is a leader in providing childcare and  
 36 afterschool programs; swim lessons; camping; youth sports; meal  
 37 programs; and lifestyle health, fitness, and well-being  
 38 programs, NOW, THEREFORE,

39  
 40 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
 41 Florida:

42  
 43 That the Young Men's Christian Association is recognized  
 44 for its 175 years of service to the nation and its continued  
 45 efforts to address social isolation and loneliness by creating  
 46 places and spaces that promote achievement, well-being, and  
 47 connection, helping people build relationships and thrive in  
 48 their communities.