

By Senator Benacquisto

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the students, alumni, faculty, and administration of Edison State College as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary as an institution of higher learning in Florida.

WHEREAS, in 1962, Edison State College offered its first classes in the Andrew D. Gwynne Institute and at a second center at Dunbar High School in Fort Myers, and, with the generous support of community donors, opened its first permanent campus in 1965, and

WHEREAS, Edison State College began offering classes in Charlotte County in 1974 and opened a permanent campus there in 1997, and

WHEREAS, Edison State College began offering classes in Collier County in 1974 and moved to a permanent campus there in 1992, and

WHEREAS, Edison State College has recently opened a permanent center in LaBelle, which serves Glades and Hendry Counties, and

WHEREAS, Edison State College has continuously adapted to the needs of the students and employers in Southwest Florida by staying at the forefront of innovative education programming and offering college baccalaureate degrees, workforce training, and continuing education, and

WHEREAS, Edison State College began offering baccalaureate degrees in 2007 and currently offers 10 baccalaureate degrees in the fields of education, nursing, cardiovascular technology, public safety management, and supervision and management, and

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30 WHEREAS, Edison State College has maintained a strong
31 commitment to providing open access to the most relevant and
32 technologically advanced education available at the certificate,
33 associate's degree, and bachelor's degree levels using
34 traditional classroom, blended-online, and online program
35 delivery, and

36 WHEREAS, Edison State College continues to seek new ways to
37 increase student success and address barriers to completing a
38 higher education credential, and

39 WHEREAS, Edison State College continues to explore new
40 partnerships with institutions in the State University System to
41 increase access to higher education, and has begun operating
42 collegiate charter high schools in order to provide more
43 opportunity for parental choice in public education, and

44 WHEREAS, Edison State College is home to many community
45 cultural resources such as the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery, which
46 hosts numerous art exhibits, and the Barbara B. Mann Performing
47 Arts Hall, which has hosted many Broadway-caliber live
48 performances, and

49 WHEREAS, as a proud member of the "Great 28" in the Florida
50 College System, Edison State College in 2012 is celebrating 50
51 years of excellence as an institution of higher education in
52 Southwest Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

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54 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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56 That the members of the Senate recognize the students,
57 alumni, faculty, and administration of Edison State College as
58 it celebrates its 50th Anniversary as an institution of higher

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59 learning in Florida.