

By Senator Campbell

38-01385A-18

20181816__

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the City of Miami on the occasion of the 122nd anniversary of its incorporation.

WHEREAS, before the Spanish claimed the land along the Miami River in the 1500s, it was a Tequesta Indian settlement named for a word in their language meaning "big water," and

WHEREAS, when the Spanish established a mission on the river's north bank in the late 1500s, the Tequestas were targeted for conversion to Christianity and subsequently perished after contracting smallpox and other European-introduced diseases, and

WHEREAS, a wave of Native Americans migrated to South Florida in the 1700s, including the "Cimarron," or "wild men" in Spanish, later known as the Seminole tribe, and

WHEREAS, after Florida was purchased from Spain and became part of the United States in 1819, three major wars were waged by the Seminoles against the government, slowing the settlement of the Miami area by white pioneers, and

WHEREAS, in the 1840s, plantation owner William English established the Village of Miami on the south bank of the Miami River, and wealthy widow Julia Tuttle established a large citrus plantation on the north side of the river, and

WHEREAS, Julia Tuttle, along with William and Mary Brickell, persuaded railroad magnate Henry Flagler to extend his railroad line to Miami, and

WHEREAS, the City of Miami was incorporated in 1896, boasting 444 residents, infrastructure, and a resort hotel

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30 financed by Flagler, and

31 WHEREAS, Miami became an instant tourist attraction and
32 retreat for the rich and famous, earning the nickname "the Magic
33 City" and prompting several real estate booms, and

34 WHEREAS, during one of the real estate booms, John Collins
35 and Carl Fisher transformed Miami Beach into a tourist haven,
36 and

37 WHEREAS, Miami rebounded after a devastating hurricane in
38 1926 and blossomed in the post-hurricane development years, and

39 WHEREAS, Miami today is still evolving as an international
40 port and tourist destination and as a gateway for global
41 industries establishing footholds in the United States, and

42 WHEREAS, the City of Miami is led by Mayor Francis Suarez,
43 City Manager Daniel J. Alfonso, Chair Keon Hardemon, Vice Chair
44 Ken Russell, and commissioners Wifredo Gort, Frank Carollo, and
45 Manolo Reyes, NOW, THEREFORE,

46

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

48

49 That the City of Miami is recognized on the occasion of the
50 122nd anniversary of its incorporation.