By Representatives Crist, L. Miller, Hart, Murman, Littlefield, Bradley, Byrd, Wallace, Ogles, Alexander, Bilirakis and Henriquez

1 House Resolution 2 A resolution honoring Roland Manteiga and 3 designating September 25, 1999, as "Roland Manteiga Day." 4 5 WHEREAS, Roland Marcelo Manteiga was born January 16, 6 7 1920, in Tampa, Florida, and 8 WHEREAS, Roland's father, Victoriano Manteiga, 9 emigrated from Cuba in 1913 and began publishing a daily Spanish-language newspaper, La Gaceta, in Tampa in 1922, and 10 11 WHEREAS, young Roland learned journalism and publishing 12 from the ground up, beginning by delivering La Gaceta on his 13 bicycle, and later by mastering advertising, circulation, 14 writing, and editing while in his teens, and WHEREAS, Roland Manteiga took a more active role in La 15 16 Gaceta after serving in the Pacific Theater during World War 17 II, and WHEREAS, La Gaceta became a weekly publication in 1953 18 19 and added Italian-language features in addition to its Spanish 20 and English, making it the only such trilingual newspaper in 21 the United States, and WHEREAS, Roland Manteiga was committed to his political 22 ideology, often opinionated, but never dull, and his column of 23 political commentary and speculation "As We Heard It" was 24 required reading for Tampa Bay-area politicians and 25 26 journalists for over 44 years, and WHEREAS, Roland Manteiga, a champion of the underdog 27 28 and a secret benefactor to people in need, was a modest man, 29 honored many times for his civic and journalistic 30 accomplishments, and 31

WHEREAS, Roland Manteiga loved Ybor City and has been recognized by community leaders as a gentleman devoted to his community, who sought to make a difference by reporting its history and celebrating its people, making them come alive for posterity, and

WHEREAS, although Roland Manteiga departed this life September 25, 1998, at the age of 78, his spirit lives on in Ybor City, and his legacy shall live on in the community he loved so much, and

WHEREAS, Roland Manteiga, pioneer journalist and editor, historian and chronicler of the rich traditions of Ybor City, a voice of conscience in the community, and a true friend to the powerful and the powerless alike, was a man who exemplified the virtues of hard work, insightful reporting, dedication to his community, modesty, and humanitarianism, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the House of Representatives pauses in its deliberations to pay honor to the memory of Roland Manteiga and to designate Saturday, September 25, 1999, as "Roland Manteiga Day" in Hillsborough County, Florida.