(NP)

By Senator Lawson

6-1929A-06 1 Senate Resolution 2 A resolution honoring Antoinette McTurner Humphries, former First Lady of Florida 3 Agricultural and Mechanical University. 4 5 6 WHEREAS, Antoinette McTurner Humphries was born on 7 November 9, 1941, to Louis and Ida McTurner of Pittsburgh, 8 Pennsylvania, and graduated from Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee, and 9 10 WHEREAS, Antoinette was a devoted wife in marriage to Dr. Frederick S. Humphries and from this union three children 11 12 were born: Frederick S. Jr.; Robin Tanya; and Laurence A. 13 Humphries, and WHEREAS, Antoinette was a proud and active member of 14 Links, Incorporated; Girlfriends, Incorporated; and Delta 15 Sigma Theta Sorority; and was a Founding Member of the Reston, 16 17 Virginia Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, and WHEREAS, from 1974 to 1985, Antoinette was First Lady 18 of Tennessee State University, where her husband, Dr. 19 Frederick Humphries, served as its President, and 20 21 WHEREAS, in 1985, Dr. Frederick Humphries became 22 President of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in 23 Tallahassee, Florida, where Antoinette moved and resumed her duties as First Lady until 2001, and 2.4 WHEREAS, Antoinette was a patron and supporter of the 25 arts, the humanities, and the theatre at Florida A&M 26 27 University where she hosted numerous receptions for honored 2.8 guests at the President's home and generated support for 29 corporate America's Industry Cluster Members Program by preparing a most sumptuous opening reception every year where 30 participants indulged in meaningful social gatherings and 31 1

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1 discussions in the President's home and in the nationally recognized hospitality of the First Lady, and 2 WHEREAS, Antoinette also unselfishly opened the 3 4 President's home to college students, many who later became part of the Humphries extended family, where she counseled 5 6 them on the importance of completing their education, staying 7 the course, and making a positive contribution to society, and 8 WHEREAS, Antoinette Humphries was an avid fan of 9 Florida A&M University's football program and hosted an annual dinner for the players and coaches, and 10 WHEREAS, Antoinette also recognized the university 11 12 faculty, staff, and students who did not often receive 13 recognition for their good works by arranging the annual "Toni Awards" under the tutelage of the late Colonel Bernard 14 Hendricks, (Ret.), where she headed a committee that selected 15 and provided scholarships to students in theatre and provided 16 17 awards and recognition to faculty and staff who gave their 18 time and efforts untiringly to others, and WHEREAS, Antoinette also involved the university 19 faculty and staff in the annual "FAMU Christmas Toy Drive" for 20 21 needy families in Gretna, Apalachicola, and Tallahassee where 22 she personally delivered toys to families in these areas, and 23 WHEREAS, Mrs. Humphries was an avid supporter of Rickards High School in Tallahassee, Florida, where she 2.4 honored students in the arts and opened the President's home 25 for fundraisers to support the needs and efforts of the high 26 27 school, and 2.8 WHEREAS, Florida A&M University's First Lady Antoinette Humphries impressively produced warm, yet elegant, events for 29 international visitors, advisory groups, delegations from 30 African and European countries, various federal and state 31 2

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1 agencies, and the White House for more than 16 years and 2 continuously promoted the university in achieving its reputation as one of the most highly regarded institutions of 3 higher education by, most notably, hosting Mr. Jean-Paul 4 Goude, the choreographer of the "Bastille Day Parade" of 5 6 Paris, France, who later selected FAMU's Marching 100 as the 7 representative from the United States during France's Bicentennial Celebration in 1989, and 8 WHEREAS, on Wednesday, March 15, 2006, Antoinette 9 10 Humphries passed away in Orlando, Florida, surrounded by her family, and will be laid to rest on Thursday, March 23, 2006, 11 12 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and 13 WHEREAS, Mrs. Antoinette Humphries will be forever remembered as Florida A&M University's First Lady with the 14 warm smile, pleasing personality, and generous heart, NOW, 15 THEREFORE, 16 17 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida: 18 19 That the Senate honors Antoinette McTurner Humphries, a 20 21 beloved wife and mother who, through her work as the First 22 Lady of Florida A&M University, dedicated her service to the 23 faculty, staff, and students at Florida A&M University and the surrounding Tallahassee community. 2.4 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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