

HR 9013

2007

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating the week of February 1-7, 2007,  
3 as "A Safe Haven for Newborns Week" in Florida.

4  
5 WHEREAS, across the United States, newborn babies are being  
6 abandoned in canals, rivers, toilets, dumpsters, bags, and  
7 similar places by parents who believe they have no other  
8 alternative, and many of these children do not survive, and

9 WHEREAS, although the 2000 Legislature passed into law  
10 section 383.50, Florida Statutes, which provides that a parent  
11 may leave an unharmed child approximately 3 days old or younger  
12 at a hospital, emergency medical services station, or fire  
13 station with the right to remain anonymous and free from fear of  
14 prosecution, it seemed apparent that few knew of its existence,  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, sensing a need to make the state's residents aware  
17 of the provisions of the law, the Gloria M. Silverio Foundation  
18 was established and "A Safe Haven for Newborns" was founded, its  
19 purpose and continuing mission being to save the lives of  
20 newborns in danger of abandonment and to help preserve the  
21 health and future of their mothers, and

22 WHEREAS, an excellent example of private initiative and  
23 "partnering" with the public sector, the Silverio Foundation  
24 maintains a multilingual 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week help  
25 line; makes available materials in English, Spanish, and Creole;  
26 sponsors public service media announcements; posts "A Safe Haven  
27 for Newborns" signs at all staffed fire rescue and emergency

HR 9013

2007

28 | medical services stations in the state; and works with hospitals  
29 | and social services agencies throughout the state, and

30 |       WHEREAS, to date, numerous young lives have been rescued  
31 | through the efforts of this organization, and it is only fitting  
32 | that the Gloria M. Silverio Foundation's "A Safe Haven for  
33 | Newborns" be recognized for its dedication and commitment to the  
34 | youngest, most vulnerable of Florida's citizens, NOW, THEREFORE,

35 |

36 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
37 | Florida:

38 |

39 |       That the Gloria M. Silverio Foundation is commended for its  
40 | excellent work in saving and preserving the lives of the state's  
41 | newborn babies and their mothers, and, in support of the worthy  
42 | efforts of this organization, the week of February 1-7, 2007, is  
43 | designated "A Safe Haven for Newborns Week" in Florida.

44 |       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
45 | presented to Nick Silverio, Founder of the Gloria M. Silverio  
46 | Foundation's "A Safe Haven for Newborns," as a tangible token of  
47 | the sentiments expressed herein.