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House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Florida Highway Patrol.

5 WHEREAS, established in 1939 and placed under the direction 6 of Colonel H. Neil Kirkman, the Florida Highway Patrol has 7 served the citizens of Florida for 75 years under the motto 8 "Service, Courtesy, and Protection," and

9 WHEREAS, the Florida Highway Patrol's first recruit class 10 consisted of 32 graduates, and by the end of its first full year 11 of operation in 1940, its membership had grown to 59 troopers, 12 and

WHEREAS, that same year, troopers patrolled over 1.9 million miles of roadway and investigated 1,000 traffic accidents in a state with fewer than 2 million residents, and

WHEREAS, in 2013, among Florida's 19 million residents and more than 90 million annual visitors, troopers patrolled over 31 million miles of roadway and investigated 211,044 traffic accidents, and

20 WHEREAS, known as Florida's Finest, the members of the 21 Florida Highway Patrol tirelessly uphold the motto established 22 by Colonel Kirkman, providing service, courtesy, and protection 23 while ensuring the safety and welfare of Florida's residents and 24 visitors each and every day on the roadways of this state, NOW, 25 THEREFORE,

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26 27 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 28 Florida: 29 30 That the Florida Highway Patrol is congratulated on its 31 75th anniversary, and its current, retired, and auxiliary 32 troopers are extended heartfelt gratitude for their invaluable 33 service to the State of Florida.