

HR 9067

2015

## House Resolution

1  
2 A resolution commending the Independent Colleges &  
3 Universities of Florida for the organization's five  
4 decades of service to the students, communities, and  
5 employers of this state.

6  
7 WHEREAS, a strong, private, not-for-profit higher education  
8 system is vital to the economic well-being of this state, and

9 WHEREAS, in 1965, the presidents of 11 colleges and  
10 universities in Florida together created the Independent  
11 Colleges & Universities of Florida to support the critical role  
12 of independent higher education in this state, and

13 WHEREAS, these college and university presidents sought to  
14 strengthen and promote independent higher education in Florida,  
15 thereby creating more educational options and access for the  
16 residents of this state, and

17 WHEREAS, the Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida  
18 worked with Governor Reubin Askew in 1972 on the effort to  
19 create the needs-based Florida Student Assistance Grant Program  
20 for students attending public and private institutions, and

21 WHEREAS, the Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida  
22 later championed the William L. Boyd, IV, Florida Resident  
23 Access Grant Program, which now, in its 36th year, is assisting  
24 nearly 38,000 students annually with their undergraduate tuition  
25 costs, and

26 WHEREAS, today, the Independent Colleges & Universities of

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27 Florida's 31 member institutions serve more than 155,000  
28 students at 135 sites across the state, offer more than 400  
29 online degree programs, and award more than 60 percent of  
30 degrees in the important fields of science, technology,  
31 engineering, mathematics, health care, business, and education,  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, in this Golden Anniversary year, these independent  
34 colleges and universities will award 25 percent of all  
35 bachelor's degrees, more than 50 percent of all first  
36 professional degrees, and more than 40 percent of all advanced  
37 degrees in Florida, and

38 WHEREAS, Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida  
39 represents a vibrant educational system with \$10 billion in  
40 assets, 35,000 employees, and annual operating budgets totaling  
41 more than \$5 billion, adding to the economic vitality of this  
42 state and providing essential resources for its students, NOW,  
43 THEREFORE,

44  
45 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
46 Florida:

47  
48 That the Florida House of Representatives extends its  
49 congratulations and commends the Independent Colleges &  
50 Universities of Florida for its five decades of service to the  
51 students, communities, and employers of this state.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be

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53 | presented to the Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida  
54 | as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.