

By Senator Perry

8-01294-18

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the University of Florida for its exemplary accomplishments as a leading academic and research institution, as well as for its contributions to the betterment of the state and nation.

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is a top 10 university, ranking No. 9 in the 2018 *U.S. News & World Report* list of Best Public Universities, and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida ranks third among all research universities in the country for getting its ideas out of the laboratory and into the real world, placing UF ahead of such schools as Stanford, MIT, Cal Tech, and the University of Texas system, according to the Milken Institute's 2017 ranking of Best Universities for Technology Transfer, and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida's entomology department is the best in the world, and a host of other UF programs rank in the top 10 globally from among more than 26,000 degree-granting institutions of higher education, according to the 2017 Center for World University Rankings, and

WHEREAS, applications to the University of Florida reached a new record in 2017, with more than 34,000 prospective students vying for admission during the summer and fall semesters, nearly an 8 percent increase over the previous year's total of 32,026, and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida is once again ranked as one of the nation's "Best Colleges for Your Money" by *Money* magazine, coming in 10th among public institutions in 2017, and

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30 WHEREAS, the UF MBA Full-Time Program at the Hough Graduate
31 School of Business achieved its highest ranking ever in *The*
32 *Economist's* MBA Full-Time Rankings, rising from last year's No.
33 10 position to No. 5 among U.S. public institutions, and

34 WHEREAS, with generous funding made possible by the
35 Legislature and Governor Rick Scott, the University of Florida
36 will hire 500 new faculty members to further enhance teaching
37 and research and to keep UF among the best research universities
38 in the nation, and

39 WHEREAS, University of Florida faculty earned nearly \$686
40 million in research awards in fiscal year 2017, including major
41 grants to study the Zika virus and citrus greening, and for
42 special education training, and

43 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense is seeking
44 ways to speed up cognitive skills training and is awarding
45 University of Florida engineers and neuroscientists up to \$8.4
46 million over the next 4 years to investigate how to apply
47 electrical stimulation to peripheral nerves as a means of
48 strengthening neuronal connections in the brain, and

49 WHEREAS, the University of Florida's athletics program
50 placed third in the 2016-2017 Learfield Sports Directors' Cup
51 standings, making UF the only program to finish among the
52 nation's top 10 in each of the last 34 national all-sports
53 standings, and

54 WHEREAS, in just over a month during 2017, three Gator
55 teams celebrated NCAA Championship wins in women's tennis, men's
56 track and field, and baseball, equaling the single season high
57 set in 2011-2012 at Florida, which is one of only six schools to
58 win national titles in baseball, basketball, and football, and

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59 WHEREAS, in November, UF Health opened the UF Health Heart
60 and Vascular Hospital and the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital,
61 representing important steps in the ongoing efforts to serve
62 patients in the Gainesville area, and throughout the state, the
63 Southeast, and beyond, and creating a healing environment in
64 which UF Health's personalized approach to care will draw upon
65 the latest technologies in medical science, NOW, THEREFORE,
66

67 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:
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69 That the University of Florida is recognized for its
70 exemplary accomplishments as a leading academic and research
71 institution, as well as for its contributions to the betterment
72 of the state and nation.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
74 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to University of
75 Florida President W. Kent Fuchs, Ph.D., as a tangible token of
76 the sentiments of the Florida Senate.