

By Senator Montford

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing February 6, 2018, as "FSU Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, founded in 1851, the Tallahassee campus of Florida State University (FSU) is the oldest continuous site of higher education in Florida, and

WHEREAS, FSU is proud to be recognized as a preeminent university by the State of Florida, and as a leader in education, research, student retention, and graduation, and is a nationally recognized institution, with many of its colleges and programs ranked within the top 10 in the nation, and

WHEREAS, in 2017, FSU jumped to No. 33 among national public universities in the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings after moving up five places for the second consecutive year, and

WHEREAS, for the sixth consecutive year, *U.S. News and World Report* also recognized FSU as the second most efficient university in the nation, based on its ability to manage its financial resources while also producing a top-quality education experience, and

WHEREAS, FSU offers graduate, undergraduate, doctoral, and professional degrees in 301 programs within 18 independent colleges and schools, taught by a faculty of 2,360 members, which has included National Academy of Sciences members and six Nobel Laureates, and

WHEREAS, FSU is more popular than ever among prospective first-time college students, as a record-breaking 42,325 applications were received for admission to the 2017 summer and fall semesters, a 16 percent jump over last year's total, which

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30 resulted in one of the university's largest freshmen classes
31 ever, composed of about 6,500 students, and

32 WHEREAS, FSU has the most academically accomplished
33 freshman classes in school history, which are at the forefront
34 of the institution's exemplary accomplishments for the 2017-2018
35 academic year, with an average freshman GPA of 4.1 and a median
36 freshman SAT score of 1,289, and

37 WHEREAS, FSU has a four-year graduation rate of 65 percent,
38 placing it in the top 20 among the nation's public research
39 institutions, and

40 WHEREAS, veteran-empowering programs and their heritage at
41 FSU have made it a national beacon of veteran support and
42 success, and the welcoming campus culture at the university
43 facilitates veterans' integration into the general student
44 population, and

45 WHEREAS, current and former members of the United States
46 Armed Forces are graduating from FSU at a rate nearly twice the
47 national average, and

48 WHEREAS, FSU student veterans and veteran alumni have
49 assumed leadership positions during their time on campus and in
50 their careers, and

51 WHEREAS, in 2017, the FSU College of Medicine achieved more
52 than \$100 million in funded research for the first time,
53 contributing to a statewide economic impact measured at more
54 than \$100 million, and

55 WHEREAS, more than 300 College of Medicine alumni
56 physicians are now practicing in Florida, with many of them
57 practicing in medically underserved communities that previously
58 struggled to recruit new doctors, and

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59 WHEREAS, the FSU college experience continues to enrich the
60 lives of students building upon the university's longstanding
61 tradition of promoting racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity
62 and its aggressive recruitment of diverse groups of students,
63 NOW, THEREFORE,

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65 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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67 That February 6, 2018, is recognized as "FSU Day" in
68 Florida.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with
70 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to FSU President
71 John Thrasher as a tangible token of the sentiments of the
72 Florida Senate as it recognizes Florida State University's
73 contribution as an outstanding institution of higher education.