

By Senator Rouson

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing Tampa Theatre as a treasured  
3 Florida landmark for its significant contribution to  
4 the arts, its historical significance as a preserved  
5 and protected landmark, and the service and enjoyment  
6 it provides to residents of and visitors to this  
7 state.

8  
9 WHEREAS, Tampa Theatre, lovingly referred to as "the  
10 Tampa," enjoys a long and luminous history and distinguished  
11 heritage, having been constructed in 1926 as one of America's  
12 most majestic and elaborate motion picture palaces, and

13 WHEREAS, the Tampa opened its doors on October 15, 1926, to  
14 a sold-out audience, including then-Governor John W. Martin, and

15 WHEREAS, an extraordinary example of movie palace  
16 architecture, the Tampa was designed by acclaimed architect John  
17 Ebersson as his favorite representation of the "atmospheric"  
18 style of theatre for which he was renowned, replete with old-  
19 world style ornamentation and statuary, wrought iron accents,  
20 rich tapestries, gargoyles, and a star-filled night sky, and has  
21 elegantly endured through the decades, and

22 WHEREAS, in 1976, when changes in the film industry  
23 endangered the future of the Tampa, area residents and champions  
24 statewide rescued the building for the enjoyment of future  
25 generations, and

26 WHEREAS, the Tampa's successful resurgence as a nonprofit  
27 film and cultural center has been central to the economic  
28 revitalization of downtown Tampa and the region, and

29 WHEREAS, the Tampa has received international acclaim as

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30 being one of the most beautiful, important, and best historic  
31 movie theaters in the world, and

32 WHEREAS, the Tampa is fiercely protected and generously  
33 supported by the residents of this state and welcomes more than  
34 140,000 visitors a year, NOW, THEREFORE,

35

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

37

38 That Tampa Theatre is recognized as a treasured Florida  
39 landmark for its significant contribution to the arts, its  
40 historical significance as a preserved and protected landmark,  
41 and the service and enjoyment it provides to residents of and  
42 visitors to this state.