

Florida Senate Resolution

By Senator Haridopolos

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A resolution recognizing March 13, 2008, as "APPRENTICESHIP Day" and honoring the APPRENTICESHIP Program for contributing to a growing and prosperous Florida economy.

WHEREAS, the APPRENTICESHIP method of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction is found worldwide and has consistently been proven to be an effective, efficient, and economical way to pass on trade and craft skills and knowledge needed by the builders of a country's economy, and

WHEREAS, since being incorporated into state law 60 years ago, Florida's APPRENTICESHIP Program has successfully taught multiple tens of thousands of students critical, industry-identified skills and knowledge, enabling apprentices to take their places as sought-after, skilled craftpersons, a diversification that helps keep our economy growing by building upon enduring strengths, and

WHEREAS, those students who complete the APPRENTICESHIP Program consistently earn higher salaries than students earning college degrees through the baccalaureate level, and

WHEREAS, research shows that Florida's apprentices seldom require public assistance and are likely to remain in the high-skill, high-wage fields in which they received their training, and

WHEREAS, Florida's current APPRENTICESHIP Program trains 15,131 apprentices in 285 programs throughout the state, ranking Florida in the top 10 percent nationally in the number of apprentices served, and

WHEREAS, the registered apprenticeship system guarantees the availability of a quality workforce, trained to the exacting standards of Florida's trades, while at the same time improving the training standards of business and industry, and

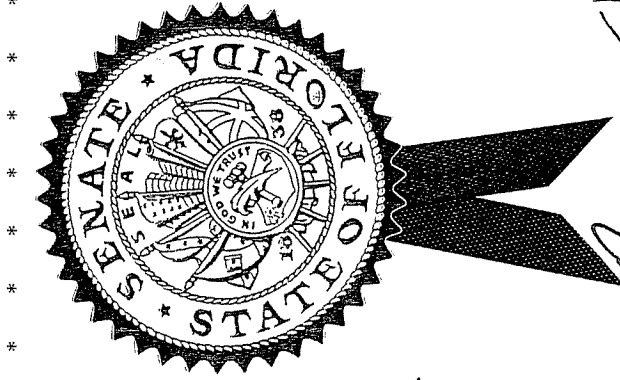
WHEREAS, Florida's APPRENTICESHIP Program welcomes all apprentices 16 years of age and older without regard to gender or ethnicity, helping Florida's economy to flourish and maintain a competitive edge nationally and internationally through its diversified workforce, and

WHEREAS, it is commonly known that the effectiveness and uniqueness of Florida's registered APPRENTICESHIP Program is due, in part, to the unique cooperation and strong partnerships forged among the business and industry sectors, the apprenticeship program sponsors, the educational community, and the dedicated, highly motivated students in apprenticeship programs, and

WHEREAS, registered APPRENTICESHIP Programs are an essential part of our educational system and such programs are a critical component in the development and delivery of high-caliber and skilled craftspeople needed to continue the growth that has been Florida's hallmark, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That March 13, 2008, is recognized by the Florida Senate as "APPRENTICESHIP Day" in the state.



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*This is a true and correct copy
of Senate Resolution No. 2208,
adopted by the Florida Senate
on March 13, 2008.*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Pruitt".

Ken Pruitt

President of the Senate

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faye W. Blanton".

Faye W. Blanton

Secretary of the Senate