

A Florida Senator's Proclamation

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A Proclamation in recognition of Florida Confederate History Month

WHEREAS, the month of April is the time during which the Confederate States of America initiated and ended its four-year struggle for a sovereign and independent nation; and

WHEREAS, in proportion to its population, the State of Florida lent more soldiers and sailors to the Confederate Cause than did any other Southern state; and

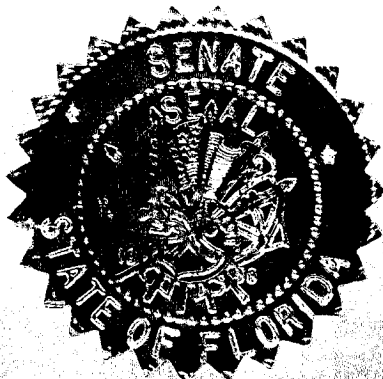
WHEREAS, all Floridians should be knowledgeable of the History of the War Between the States and the Battles fought in the State of Florida, including the Battles of Natural Bridge, Olustee and Santa Rosa Island; and

WHEREAS, April 26 has been designated by the laws of Florida as a legal holiday, a time in which to honor the memories of those who sacrificed their lives in the War Between the States; and

WHEREAS, as we recall the tragic events that took place between the years of 1861 and 1865, we do so in an attempt to gain a better understanding of the conflicting ideals and passions that pitted brother against brother and tore a nation apart; NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Respectfully Proclaimed that the residents of the State of Florida be urged to observe the month of April, 2000, as Florida Confederate History Month and, in solemnly contemplating the events of that time, resolve to foster a climate in which all Americans live and work together in harmony in "one nation under God".

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Mitchell".

Richard Mitchell
Senator, District 4