

HR 8031

2019

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing Florida's military and
3 veteran caregivers, also known as "Hidden Heroes."
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5 WHEREAS, as documented by a RAND Corporation study
6 commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, the series of
7 wars and conflicts in which the United States has been engaged
8 since World War II has resulted in 5.5 million parents, spouses,
9 siblings, and friends who are caregivers to wounded, ill, or
10 injured servicemembers and veterans, and

11 WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these caregivers may include
12 bathing, dressing, feeding, caring for grievous injuries,
13 administering medications, and providing emotional support to
14 servicemembers and veterans in addition to caring for the family
15 and the home while also working outside the home to earn
16 essential income, and

17 WHEREAS, the United States provides multifaceted support to
18 wounded, ill, and injured servicemembers and veterans through
19 public, private, and philanthropic resources, but caregivers
20 receive little support or acknowledgement, and according to
21 research, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers
22 suffer numerous debilitating mental, physical, and emotional
23 effects as a result of their caregiving duties, and

24 WHEREAS, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation established the
25 Hidden Heroes program, the mission of which is to raise

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26 awareness of the issues military and veteran caregivers confront
27 daily and to inspire individuals, businesses, and community
28 leaders to take action in supporting these caregivers in their
29 communities, and

30 WHEREAS, Alachua County, Gainesville, Jacksonville, and
31 Winter Springs are currently registered as Hidden Heroes
32 Communities, a growing nationwide network of cities and counties
33 dedicated to recognizing and supporting local military and
34 veteran caregivers, NOW, THEREFORE,

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36 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
37 Florida:

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39 That Florida's military and veteran caregivers, also known
40 as "Hidden Heroes," are recognized and commended for their
41 selfless dedication to the challenging duties of caring for
42 those who have cared for and defended all Americans.