

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.