

HR 8061

2021

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 23, 2021, as "Highlands
3 County Centennial Day".
4

5 WHEREAS, in 1887 Manatee County was split into two
6 counties, and DeSoto County was established, then geographically
7 occupying a part of Florida roughly equal to the size of the
8 states of Delaware and Rhode Island combined, with the area now
9 known as Highlands County comprising most of the eastern
10 section, and

11 WHEREAS, in 1897, due to the county's growth, a citizen
12 group of citizens, known as the "Divisionists", embarked on a
13 decades-long struggle to have DeSoto County further divided to
14 allow for a better and more responsive representation of the
15 residents in the most populated areas, and

16 WHEREAS, after several attempts were blocked by powerful
17 politicians within the region, the political climate changed,
18 clearing the way in 1921 for Senator F.M. Cooper and
19 Representative Dr. E. J. Etheredge to introduce bills to their
20 respective chambers of the Florida Legislature calling for
21 DeSoto County to be divided in to five counties, and organizing
22 the four new counties as Hardee, Charlotte, Glades, and
23 Highlands, and

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24 WHEREAS, Highlands County was created by an act of the
 25 Florida Legislature which was signed into law by the Honorable
 26 Cary A. Hardee, Governor of Florida on April 23, 1921, and

27 WHEREAS, on April 23, 2021, Highlands County will celebrate
 28 the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Highlands County,
 29 and

30 WHEREAS, Highlands County today boasts a vibrant cultural,
 31 natural, and historical heritage, and

32 WHEREAS, Highlands County cherishes and celebrates its rich
 33 history and honors the vision and tenacity of the men and women
 34 who were instrumental in bringing the county to fruition, NOW,
 35 THEREFORE,

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

39
 40 That April 23, 2021, is recognized as "Highlands County
 41 Centennial Day".

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
 43 presented to The Highland County Board of County Commissioners
 44 as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.