

HR 8067

2019

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution commending Dr. Judy Genshaft on 19 years
3 of remarkable service as president of the University
4 of South Florida System.

5
6 WHEREAS, in the summer of 2000, Dr. Judy Genshaft became
7 the sixth President of the University of South Florida System,
8 and

9 WHEREAS, today, under President Genshaft's leadership, the
10 University of South Florida is a preeminent state research
11 university that has earned national and international
12 recognition for student success, research and innovation,
13 fundraising, and economic development, and

14 WHEREAS, the University of South Florida System is
15 currently home to 50,755 students representing more than 145
16 countries, and

17 WHEREAS, over the past 19 years, the university's
18 enrollment has grown by 40 percent while its 4-year graduation
19 rate has tripled, and

20 WHEREAS, in 2017, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*
21 recognized the University of South Florida's Tampa campus for
22 greatest improvements in 6-year graduation rates among 4-year
23 public colleges and universities, and

24 WHEREAS, the University of South Florida has strengthened
25 its academic profile, and during the fall of 2018 welcomed its

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26 | most academically gifted freshman class with an average grade
27 | point average of 4.09 and an average SAT score of 1283, and

28 | WHEREAS, the University of South Florida rose to 58th among
29 | public universities and 124th among all public and private
30 | universities in the *U.S. News and World Report's 2019 Best*
31 | *National Universities*, and

32 | WHEREAS, under President Genshaft's leadership and her
33 | unwavering commitment to student success, all University of
34 | South Florida students now graduate at the same rate, regardless
35 | of race, ethnicity, or family income level, and

36 | WHEREAS, The Education Trust recognized the University of
37 | South Florida's Tampa campus as sixth in the nation and first in
38 | the state for eliminating the completion gap between black and
39 | white students, and fourth in the nation and first in the state
40 | for Latino student success, and

41 | WHEREAS, the University of South Florida has become a
42 | national leader in veteran student success, and in 2018 and 2019
43 | ranked second in *Military Times* annual list of best schools for
44 | student veterans, and

45 | WHEREAS, during Dr. Genshaft's presidency, the university's
46 | research activity tripled, positioning it as one of the nation's
47 | top 25 public universities for research according to the
48 | National Science Foundation, and

49 | WHEREAS, under President Genshaft's leadership, the
50 | University of South Florida became one of the leading public

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51 universities in number of new United States utility patents
52 granted, ranking first in Florida and fifth in the nation among
53 public universities and 12th worldwide among all public and
54 private universities, and

55 WHEREAS, in 2013, the University of South Florida joined
56 the American Athletic Conference, and since joining has won 12
57 conference titles, including four in 2016-2017, and

58 WHEREAS, President Genshaft encourages opportunities for
59 students to receive a global education, and in 2011, she and her
60 husband, Steve Greenbaum, created the Genshaft/Greenbaum
61 Passport Scholars Fund dedicated to support University of South
62 Florida students who want to study abroad, and

63 WHEREAS, under President Genshaft's leadership, in 2018,
64 the University of South Florida was certified by the Board of
65 Governors of the State University System as the state's third
66 preeminent state research university, and

67 WHEREAS, in 2018, the University of South Florida was
68 awarded a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Society, the oldest and most
69 prestigious national honor society in the nation, and

70 WHEREAS, when she retires from the presidency on July 1,
71 2019, President Genshaft will have awarded more than 200,000
72 University of South Florida degrees, NOW, THEREFORE,

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74 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
75 Florida:

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That a grateful state thanks Dr. Judy Genshaft for her service and offers its best wishes to her on the occasion of her retirement.