BILL ORIGINAL YEAR

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House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to authorize a prorated reduction of all federal taxes to compensate for services reduced or discontinued during a Federal Government shutdown.

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WHEREAS, the 2013 Federal Government shutdown directly and indirectly impacted many American citizens and businesses negatively, ranging from the 800,000 furloughed government employees to those commercial enterprises that depended on government employees to purchase goods or pay their bills, and

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WHEREAS, it is not the fault of taxpaying individuals and businesses that the executive and legislative branches of the Federal Government at times are unable or unwilling to reach an agreement on a budget, and

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WHEREAS, such a budgetary impasse causes government services to shut down, affecting many aspects of the nation's economy, and

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WHEREAS, the shutting down of government services also results in the suspension of government programs that assist individuals who depend on those programs to carry out their everyday activities, thereby affecting businesses that employ workers who are funded by those programs and impacting all Americans who depend on government programs to conduct

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regulatory activities that guarantee the health and safety of products in the stream of commerce, and

WHEREAS, taxpayers should not be required to pay federally imposed taxes while the Federal Government is unable to provide them with needed services, and

WHEREAS, individuals and businesses should only resume paying taxes to the Federal Government once a budget impasse is resolved and an agreement is reached to restart services and programs, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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That should the Federal Government fail to agree on a federal budget in the future and, therefore, be forced to reduce or discontinue government services, federal taxes due for the fiscal year or years during any shutdown which occurs should be prorated to account for the shutdown period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

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