

RESOLUTION NO. 93-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE RETENTION OF GENERAL KIRBY SMITH AS ONE OF THE HONORED FLORIDIANS IN STATUARY HALL.

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is one of the first two original Counties in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on the 16th of May, 1824, General Edmund Kirby-Smith was born in the County seat of St. Augustine, Florida to Superior Court Judge Joseph Lee Smith and his wife Frances Kirby; and

WHEREAS, General Edmund Kirby-Smith spent the childhood years of his life enjoying the beauty of St. Augustine and later in his life longed for the sights and sounds of his birthplace when his heroic acts took him far from St. Johns County's shores; and

WHEREAS, General Edmund Kirby-Smith graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and immediately began serving his Country in the Mexican War and was subsequently twice breveted for bravery; and

WHEREAS, General Edmund Kirby-Smith was the last Confederate General to surrender following the fall of the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, General Edmund Kirby-Smith spent the last twenty years of his life devoted to education and served as a professor at the University of the South until his death in 1893; and

WHEREAS, General Edmund Kirby-Smith was more than just a brave gentleman and a diligent scholar, he was a model citizen, and also a hero not just to Floridians, but to all Americans; and

WHEREAS, in honor of his many, important and noble lifelong accomplishments, a statue of General Edmund Kirby-Smith was placed in the National Statuary Hall to represent his native state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, no statue has ever been removed from Statuary Hall, and to do so would dishonor the memory of a great American and would deny St. Augustine and St. Johns County of recognition as the oldest continuously occupied European settlement in North America.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA;

That every effort be made to prevent the removal of the statue of General Edmund Kirby-Smith from Statuary Hall in our Nation's Capitol of Washington, D.C.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the St. Johns County Legislative Delegation and members of the United States Congress.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida this 9th day of March, 1993.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY *Rimona Balcerova*
Chair

ATTEST: CARL "BUD" MARKEL, CLERK

BY *Patricia DeGrande*
Deputy Clerk

