

RESOLUTION NO. 97- 95

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSING THE DESIGNATION OF THE ST. JOHNS RIVER AS AN AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is one of the two original counties in Florida and was created under the authority of Governor Andrew Jackson and the Territorial Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the French settlement at Fort Caroline near the mouth of the St. Johns River was the first western European settlement in the New World, which quickly led to the Spanish colonization of "La Florida"; and

WHEREAS, the River was known to Native Americans as "Welaka", and to the Spanish as "Rio de las corrientes; and

WHEREAS, the 310-mile long St. Johns River is the State's longest river and is one of a handful of major rivers in the world that flows north; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, the St. Johns River has attracted settlements of diverse cultures and has served as an invaluable transportation corridor; and

WHEREAS, the waters, banks, and lands near the River contain archeological sites of great historical significance; and

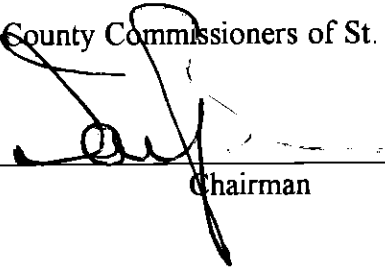
WHEREAS, the waters and shoreline of the River in St. Johns County provide our citizens with abundant recreational and lifestyle opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of St. Johns County have actively joined in community efforts to preserve and enhance the St. Johns River, including an annual river clean-up, which in 1996 was awarded State and National awards by Keep America Beautiful; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, desires to preserve the rich history, traditions and quality of life associated with its namesake River;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, that the Board of County Commissioners enthusiastically joins its neighbors along the St. Johns River to endorse the St. Johns River for designation as an American Heritage River and hereby petitions the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, to make such designation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County,
Florida this 24th day of June, 1997.



Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK



Clerk

