



**FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION
Resolution 2017-1**

**Florida Sheriffs Association Resolution in Support of Legislation to Amend
Florida's Constitution to Ensure Sheriffs are Independently Elected**

Whereas, the Florida Constitution in Article VIII, Section 1(d), created the Office of the Sheriff and invested the Sheriff with certain powers necessary to carry out his or her duties to serve and protect the public; and

Whereas, Florida Sheriffs are dedicated to protecting Florida's citizens and advocating for positive changes in our state's safety arena; and

Whereas, SJR 134 is now before the Florida Legislature proposing an amendment to Section 1 of Article VII and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to remove the authority for a county charter to choose the sheriff in a manner other than election; and

Whereas, Florida Sheriffs Association has steadfastly supported the necessity for sheriffs to remain independently elected by the citizens of their county; and

Whereas, a sheriff is most accountable when they are elected and have the ability to provide the best public safety services to their citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that on this 31st day of January 2017 at the Winter Conference in Jacksonville, Florida, the Florida Sheriffs Association publicly acknowledges and reiterates its support for legislation that will permit the citizens of Miami-Dade County and the other 66 counties to independently elect their sheriff.

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION:

ATTEST:

Sheriff Jerry Demings
President

Steve Casey
Executive Director

