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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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November 30, 2015

The Honorable Sally A. Heyman  
Commissioner, District 4  
Miami-Dade County  
111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, #220  
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Commissioner Heyman:

I write to express my support of your resolution urging the Florida legislature to take action regarding the removal of confederate general Edmund Kirby Smith from National Statuary Hall and replacing his statue with a prominent Floridian recommended by the ad hoc committee of the Great Floridian's Program within the Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Department of State.

Born in St. Augustine in 1824, General Smith only spent a brief time in Florida before moving out of the state as a child. Upon the breakout of the American Civil War, Smith resigned from the United States military to join the Confederate States Army where he rose to the rank of General. Gifted by Florida in 1922, General Smith has been sitting in our Nation's Capitol building for over 90 years. Not only does Smith not represent the ideals of our great state, it would be a stretch to even label him a Floridian.

As you are aware, the Florida legislature is responsible for choosing which two statues of historical figures represent our state in the United States Capitol. I am attaching a letter that I and other Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation sent to Florida House Speaker Steve Crisafulli, Florida House Speaker Designate Richard Corcoran, and President of the Florida Senate Andy Gardiner; respectfully bringing this issue to their attention.

I would once again like to offer my support of your resolution encouraging the Florida legislature to act on this matter in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Thank you for your time and attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress