

By Representatives Littlefield and Byrd

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution commending Brooke Bennett, Olympic
3 Gold Medalist in the 800-meter freestyle and
4 member of the 1996 USA Women's Swim Team at the
5 1996 Atlanta Summer Games.

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7 WHEREAS, Brooke Bennett won the Gold Medal in the
8 800-meter freestyle swimming event for the USA Women's Swim
9 Team during the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, and

10 WHEREAS, swimming in her first-ever Olympics, Brooke
11 Bennett took the lead after the 70-meter mark and was never
12 seriously challenged again during her event, and

13 WHEREAS, following the instructions of Coach Peter
14 Banks, she kept her composure, kept her eye on the German
15 swimmers, remembered that she is number one in the world in
16 the 800-meter freestyle, and, swimming her lifetime best at 8
17 minutes 27.89 seconds, Brooke Bennett took the gold, and

18 WHEREAS, she was two seconds faster than Germany's
19 Dagmar Hase, with six of the world's best swimmers following,
20 including Holland's Kirsten Vliegheuis, Germany's Kerstin
21 Kielgass, Norway's Irene Dalby, America's Janet Evans,
22 Holland's Carla Geurts, and Britain's Sarah Hardcastle, and

23 WHEREAS, she dedicated her race to James Lane, her
24 grandfather, who had her swimming under water from poolside to
25 poolside when she was one year old, and

26 WHEREAS, by the age of five, Brooke Bennett was
27 competing in organized swimming with the Tampa Bay Rays and,
28 by the age of nine, she was swimming year-round at the Brandon
29 Swim and Tennis Club for Coach Banks, and

30 WHEREAS, her training includes more than 50 miles of
31 swimming each week, with practices from 5:15 a.m. until 7 a.m.

1 and from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. 6 days a week, aerobic and weight
2 training, and maintaining a nutritious diet, and

3 WHEREAS, Brooke Bennett, who attends Durant High
4 School, is the 16-year-old daughter of Keith Bennett and
5 Rachel Bennett, of Plant City, and

6 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize Brooke Bennett
7 for her natural talent, tenacity, and tremendous work ethic,
8 NOW, THEREFORE,

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10 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
11 Florida:

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13 That Brooke Bennett, Olympic Gold Medalist in the
14 800-meter freestyle swim and member of the 1996 USA Women's
15 Swim Team, is hereby commended for her outstanding
16 accomplishment at the Atlanta Summer Games.

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