

By Representative Lawson

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution honoring Dr. Benjamin L. Perry.

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4 WHEREAS, Dr. Benjamin L. Perry was born February 27,  
5 1918, in Eatonville, Florida, and moved to Tallahassee when  
6 his father accepted a faculty position at Florida Agricultural  
7 and Mechanical University, FAMU, and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Perry received a Bachelor of Science  
9 degree in agricultural education from FAMU in 1940, received a  
10 Master of Science degree in agricultural economics from Iowa  
11 State University in 1942 and returned to FAMU to become an  
12 instructor in economics, and received a Ph.D. from Cornell  
13 University in land economics in 1954, and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Perry returned to FAMU to begin a  
15 distinguished career as a professor of economics and a  
16 university administrator, was Dean of Students for 8 years,  
17 became a member of the Michigan State University Advisory Team  
18 for the United States Agency for International Development and  
19 was Dean of Student Affairs at the University of Nigeria, was  
20 FAMU's first Director of Research and Grants, became the Dean  
21 of Administration, and later became the sixth President of  
22 FAMU, serving in that capacity from 1968 to 1977, and

23 WHEREAS, as President of FAMU, Dr. Perry thoroughly  
24 reorganized that institution, being responsible for  
25 establishment of the FAMU Foundation, the Basic Studies and  
26 Thirteen College Curriculum Programs, the School of Business  
27 and Industry, the School of Architecture, the Black Archives,  
28 Research Center and Museum, and the Cluster program, and

29 WHEREAS, Dr. Perry, despite numerous strong and  
30 persistent forces supporting the merger or abolition of FAMU,  
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1 was successful in fighting to save FAMU as an autonomous and  
2 independent institution, NOW, THEREFORE,

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4 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
5 Florida:

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7           That the House of Representatives hereby recognizes the  
8 achievements, contributions, and service of Dr. Benjamin L.  
9 Perry to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University,  
10 especially his efforts to preserve FAMU as an independent and  
11 accredited institution of higher learning.

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