



HR 9055

2003

## House Resolution

A resolution honoring world heavyweight champion Roy Jones, Jr.

WHEREAS, on Saturday, March 1, 2003, before more than 15,000 spectators at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas and additional millions via national and international television, a confident Roy Jones, Jr., stepped into the ring and fought his way to a unanimous decision against world heavyweight champion John Ruiz, and

WHEREAS, amid the cheers and accolades of a smaller but no less enthusiastic crowd of devoted fans gathered to greet him the following night, exhausted but happy hometown boy Roy Jones, Jr., returned to Pensacola, not just a local superhero, but the new heavyweight champion of world boxing, and

WHEREAS, 5-foot-10 Roy Jones worked resolutely to prepare himself for the title fight against the taller, heavier John Ruiz, turning deaf ears to the cries of naysayers who warned him against attempting such a feat, and

WHEREAS, Roy Jones has won world titles at middleweight, super middleweight, and light heavyweight, and now joins Bob Fitzsimmons as one of only two former world champion middleweights to wear the world heavyweight belt, a distinction that set apart Fitzsimmons for 106 years, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That Roy Jones Jr., is commended for his determination to reach the goals he has set for himself and is congratulated for



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31 his having earned the World Boxing Association Heavyweight  
32 Championship.

33       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
34 presented to Roy Jones, Jr., as a tangible token of the  
35 sentiments expressed herein.