

HR 9107

2008

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 16, 2008, as "Barrington  
3 Irving Day" in the State of Florida.

4  
5 WHEREAS, on March 23, 2007, Barrington Irving, a 23-year-  
6 old senior majoring in aeronautical studies at Florida Memorial  
7 University, climbed into a single-engine Columbia 400 aircraft  
8 called "Inspiration" and embarked on a 26,800-mile, round-the-  
9 world flight, and

10 WHEREAS, when he returned to Miami on June 27th, he was  
11 celebrated for setting two world records – he is the first  
12 person of African descent and the youngest person ever to fly  
13 solo around the globe, and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Irving traversed four continents, clocking  
15 more than 130 hours of flight time on a 97-day "World Flight  
16 Adventure" that included landings in the Azores, Spain, Greece,  
17 Egypt, Dubai, India, Thailand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Japan, and

18 WHEREAS, born in Kingston, Jamaica, and raised in inner-  
19 city Miami, Mr. Irving is a graduate of Miami-Dade County Public  
20 Schools and is a Mentor in the 5000 Role Models of Excellence  
21 Project, and

22 WHEREAS, while a student at Florida Memorial University,  
23 Mr. Irving earned Private and Commercial Pilot and Flight  
24 Instructor licenses as well as his Instrument Rating and, in  
25 2005, he founded a nonprofit organization, Experience Aviation,  
26 Inc., to address the significant shortage of youth pursuing  
27 careers in Aviation and Aerospace, and

HR 9107

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28 WHEREAS, supported by a \$10,000 grant from the Miami Dade  
29 Empowerment Trust, Barrington Irving offered guidance and  
30 training to young people in South Florida through a program that  
31 included flying touring planes and learning how to use a flight  
32 simulator and he received an additional commitment of \$75,000 to  
33 expand the program and reach more youth in the community, and

34 WHEREAS, Mr. Irving used these funds to set up what he  
35 hopes will be the first of many Experience Aviation Learning  
36 Centers at Miami's Opa-locka Executive Airport using donated  
37 computers and Microsoft Flight Simulator software, and

38 WHEREAS, Barrington Irving's successful endeavors in  
39 aviation and his dedication to making aviation education and  
40 training available to many young people are magnificent  
41 accomplishments and represent an energy and a vision that  
42 inspire us all, NOW, THEREFORE,

43  
44 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
45 Florida:

46  
47 That the House of Representatives congratulates and  
48 applauds Barrington Irving on his amazing accomplishments in  
49 aviation and recognizes April 16, 2008, as "Barrington Irving  
50 Day" in the State of Florida.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
52 presented to Barrington Irving as a tangible token of the  
53 sentiments expressed herein.