

By Senator Hill

1-05436-09

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing August 8, 2009, as "'Bullet' Bob Hayes Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Robert Lee Hayes was born on December 20, 1942, in Jacksonville and attended Jacksonville's Matthew Gilbert High School, where he was a standout on the football and track and field teams, and

WHEREAS, "Bullet" Bob Hayes attended Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, where he remained a two-sport stand-out in both track and football and was the Amateur Athletic Union 100-yard dash champion from 1962-1964 and the National Collegiate Athletic Association 200-meter dash champion in 1964, and

WHEREAS, at the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, "Bullet" Bob Hayes won the 100-meter gold medal, tying the then-world record of 10.05 seconds, and anchored the United States 400-meter relay team to a gold medal victory in a world record 39.06 seconds, where his relay split of 8.6 seconds earned him the title "World's Fastest Human," and

WHEREAS, in 1964, the National Football League's Dallas Cowboys drafted "Bullet" Bob Hayes in the seventh round, taking a chance on a sprinter with blazing speed, and

WHEREAS, in addition to playing wide receiver, "Bullet" Bob Hayes returned punts for the Cowboys and was the NFL's leading punt returner in 1968 with a 20.8 yards-per-return average and two touchdowns, including a 90-yard touchdown against the Pittsburgh Steelers, and

WHEREAS, playing with speed that forced opposing teams'

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30 defenses to change to the zone style of defense, "Bullet" Bob
31 Hayes was named to the NFL Pro Bowl three times and the NFL All
32 Pro Team four times, and

33 WHEREAS, "Bullet" Bob Hayes helped Dallas win five Eastern
34 Conference titles and two National Football Conference titles,
35 played in two Super Bowls, and was instrumental in Dallas'
36 first-ever Super Bowl victory in 1972, making Hayes the only
37 person to win both an Olympic gold medal and a Super Bowl ring,
38 and

39 WHEREAS, for his many outstanding contributions to the
40 Dallas Cowboys' football organization, "Bullet" Bob Hayes was
41 enshrined in the Dallas Cowboys' Ring of Honor in 2001, and

42 WHEREAS, after battling with prostate cancer and liver
43 ailments, "Bullet" Bob Hayes died of kidney failure in his
44 hometown of Jacksonville on September 18, 2002, and

45 WHEREAS, "Bullet" Bob Hayes was selected as a member of the
46 Pro Football Hall of Fame's Class of 2009 and will be enshrined
47 on August 8, 2009, NOW, THEREFORE,

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49 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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51 That in recognition of the tremendous talents and
52 achievements of Robert Lee Hayes, August 8, 2009, is recognized
53 as "'Bullet' Bob Hayes Day" in Florida.