

HR 9029

2015

House Resolution

A resolution honoring Bethune-Cookman University and designating March 18, 2015, as "Wildcat Day" in the State of Florida.

WHEREAS, on October 3, 1904, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, with "five girls, \$1.50, and faith in God," founded the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, which would become Bethune-Cookman College in 1931, and

WHEREAS, through the tenacity of Mary McLeod Bethune, the Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls grew from an all-girls elementary school to Bethune-Cookman College, launching its first master's degree program in 2006 and achieving university status in early 2007, and

WHEREAS, with a current total enrollment of 4,045 students, Bethune-Cookman University offers 33 majors through nine academic schools and colleges, including four graduate degree programs; maintains intercollegiate athletic programs and instrumental and choral groups that have achieved national recognition; and is one of three private historically black colleges and universities in the state, and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2013, after serving almost 11 months as interim president, Dr. Edison O. Jackson accepted the appointment to become the sixth president of Bethune-Cookman University, bringing with him a wealth of experience and

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27 | knowledge in administering the affairs of educational
28 | institutions, and

29 | WHEREAS, Bethune-Cookman University strives to develop
30 | global leaders who are committed to service, lifelong learning,
31 | and diversity by providing a faith-based environment of academic
32 | excellence and transformative experiences, and

33 | WHEREAS, to further develop today's global leaders, the
34 | university partnered with the Institute of International
35 | Education (IIE) in 2014 to launch Generation Study Abroad, a 5-
36 | year initiative that brings leaders in education, business, and
37 | governments together to double the number of United States
38 | college students studying abroad, and

39 | WHEREAS, Bethune-Cookman University's motto, "Enter to
40 | learn. Depart to serve," represents a call to action for 21st-
41 | century learners to empower themselves and others, connect with
42 | their communities, and influence the world around them, NOW,
43 | THEREFORE,

44 |

45 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
46 | Florida:

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48 | That March 18, 2015, is designated as "Wildcat Day" in the
49 | State of Florida in recognition of Bethune-Cookman University's
50 | contribution as an outstanding institution of higher education.

51 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
52 | presented to the president of Bethune-Cookman University, Dr.

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53 | Edison O. Jackson, as a tangible token of the sentiments
54 | expressed herein.