

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution commending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
3 University for its contributions to this state, our
4 nation, and the world in the fields of aviation,
5 aerospace, research, and innovation, and designating
6 February 10, 2026, as "Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
7 University Day" in Florida.
8

9 WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was founded
10 in 1926 as the Embry-Riddle Company and was recognized in 1929
11 as one of the first five flying schools in the nation to be
12 certified under the United States Department of Commerce's Air
13 Commerce Act, and

14 WHEREAS, in 1965, through "Operation Bootstrap," the
15 university relocated to its current home in Daytona Beach,
16 beginning a new era of growth and partnership with the people
17 and economy of this state, and

18 WHEREAS, for nearly a century, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
19 University has been the world's largest and most respected
20 university specializing in aviation and aerospace, offering more
21 than 100 high-value degree programs ranging from associate to
22 doctoral levels, as well as professional development
23 opportunities, and

24 WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's presence in
25 Florida was almost \$2.2 billion in 2023, and the Research Park

26 | alone had an economic impact of \$372 million in 2023, creating
27 | more than 220 high-wage jobs and attracting \$146 million in
28 | grants and equity investments since 2017, and

29 | WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has served as
30 | a hub of innovation and partnership among academia, industry,
31 | and government, producing 178 invention disclosures across 28
32 | departments and securing 23 United States patents over the past
33 | two decades, and

34 | WHEREAS, the university's Research Park continues to expand
35 | with the opening of Boeing's engineering center and the first
36 | United States facility for French aircraft designer Aura Aero in
37 | 2025, further cementing Florida's leadership in aerospace
38 | research and advanced manufacturing, and

39 | WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University welcomed a
40 | record-breaking 2,410 new students for the 2025-2026 academic
41 | year in Daytona Beach, with representation from all 50 states
42 | and 69 countries, and has seen a 24 percent increase in
43 | enrollment on its Daytona Beach campus over the past 5 years,
44 | and

45 | WHEREAS, the university has earned numerous national
46 | distinctions, including being ranked as the number one school
47 | among "Most Innovative Schools," third among "Best Colleges for
48 | Veterans" for regional universities in the South, and fourth
49 | nationally for Aerospace Engineering programs with a doctorate-

50 level program option, maintaining its top-five status for 3
51 consecutive years, and

52 WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is one of the
53 first three institutions to join the Federal Aviation
54 Administration's Enhanced Air Traffic Collegiate Training
55 Initiative, strengthening the air traffic controller talent
56 pipeline critical to the nation's aviation infrastructure, and

57 WHEREAS, in 2025, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
58 achieved the distinguished Carnegie R-2 Research designation,
59 securing over \$50 million in external research funding for
60 fiscal year 2024-2025, reaching a record in university history,
61 affirming its growing reputation as a leading research
62 institution, and

63 WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University continues to
64 advance Florida's role in the new space economy through
65 groundbreaking, student-driven projects, including EagleCam, the
66 first university student-built payload to land on the moon, and
67 LLAMAS, a student-designed camera system that captured the first
68 video of crew operations during a civilian spacewalk, and is
69 also a founding member of the Florida University Space Research
70 Consortium, and

71 WHEREAS, the university has pioneered the world's first
72 bachelor's degree in Commercial Space Operations and the
73 nation's first undergraduate program in Aerospace Physiology,

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74 preparing Florida's workforce for the growing aerospace and
75 commercial space industries, and

76 WHEREAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's community
77 includes more than 150,000 accomplished alumni worldwide,
78 including 10 astronauts and 13 four-star generals and admirals
79 from the United States Armed Forces, along with a dedicated
80 Board of Trustees representing leadership across aviation,
81 aerospace, and academia, and

82 WHEREAS, for nearly 100 years, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical
83 University has exemplified Florida's commitment to innovation,
84 education, and global leadership in aviation and aerospace, NOW,
85 THEREFORE,

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

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90 That February 10, 2026, is designated as "Embry-Riddle
91 Aeronautical University Day" in Florida in recognition of Embry-
92 Riddle Aeronautical University's contributions to the State of
93 Florida, its impact on the aerospace and aviation industries,
94 and its dedication to excellence in education, research, and
95 innovation.

96 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
97 presented to P. Barry Butler, President of Embry-Riddle
98 Aeronautical University, and the leadership of Embry-Riddle

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99 | Aeronautical University as a tangible token of the sentiments
100 | expressed herein.