HR 9011

House Resolution

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A resolution designating March 12, 2009, as "Apprenticeship Day 2009" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the apprenticeship method of on-the-job training and related classroom instruction is found worldwide and has consistently been proven to be an effective, efficient, and economical way to pass on trade and craft skills and knowledge needed by the builders of a nation's economy, and

10 WHEREAS, since being incorporated into state law 62 years 11 ago, Florida's apprenticeship program has taught tens of 12 thousands of students critical, industry-identified skills and 13 knowledge necessary for apprentices to take their place as 14 sought-after, skilled craftpersons, creating a diversification 15 that helps keep the state's economy growing by being built upon 16 enduring strengths, and

WHEREAS, it has been repeatedly demonstrated that apprenticeship completers consistently earn higher salaries than students earning college degrees through the baccalaureate level, that apprentices are likely to remain in the high-skill, high-wage fields in which they received their training, and that they have extremely low rates of public assistance, and

23 WHEREAS, Florida's current registered apprenticeship 24 program has 248 active apprenticeship programs throughout the 25 state training 14,599 apprentices, Florida consistently ranks in 26 the top 10 percent nationally in the number of apprentices 27 served; and Florida's registered apprenticeship system welcomes

Page 1 of 2

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2009

HR 9011

48

51

28 all apprentices 16 years of age or older without regard to 29 gender or ethnicity, and

30 WHEREAS, Florida's registered apprenticeship system 31 guarantees the availability of a quality workforce trained to 32 the exacting standards of the state's trades, while at the same 33 time improving the training standards of business and industry, 34 and it is on these strengths of a diversified workforce that 35 Florida's economy will flourish and maintain its competitive 36 edge nationally and internationally, and

37 WHEREAS, it is commonly known that the effectiveness and 38 uniqueness of Florida's registered apprenticeship program is in 39 part due to the unique cooperation and strong partnerships 40 forged among the business and industry sectors, the educational 41 community, apprenticeship program sponsors, and dedicated 42 students who are highly motivated to learn, and

WHEREAS, registered apprenticeship programs are an essential part of our education system and such programs are a critical component in the development and delivery of highcaliber, skilled craftspeople needed to continue the growth that has been Florida's hallmark, NOW, THEREFORE,

49 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 50 Florida:

52 That March 12, 2009, is designated as "Apprenticeship Day 53 2009" in Florida.

Page 2 of 2

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2009