

HR 9077

2014

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution honoring Bethune-Cookman University and
3 designating March 25, 2014, as "Wildcat Day" in the
4 State of Florida.
5

6 WHEREAS, on October 3, 1904, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, with
7 "five girls, \$1.50, and faith in God," founded the Daytona
8 Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls in
9 Daytona Beach, which would become Bethune-Cookman College in
10 1931, and

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

17 WHEREAS, with a current total enrollment of 3,787, Bethune-
18 Cookman University offers 41 majors through eight academic
19 schools and colleges, including four graduate programs, and six
20 professional degrees; maintains intercollegiate athletic
21 programs and instrumental and choral groups that have achieved
22 national recognition; and is one of three private historically
23 black colleges and universities in the state, and

24 WHEREAS, on March 20, 2013, after serving nearly 11 months
25 as interim president, Dr. Edison O. Jackson accepted the

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26 | appointment to become the sixth president of Bethune-Cookman
27 | University, bringing with him a wealth of experience and
28 | knowledge in administering the affairs of educational
29 | institutions, and

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

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

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

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

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49 That March 25, 2014, is designated as "Wildcat Day" in the
50 State of Florida in recognition of Bethune-Cookman University's
51 contribution as an outstanding institution of higher education.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
53 presented to the president of Bethune-Cookman University, Dr.
54 Edison O. Jackson, as a tangible token of the sentiments
55 expressed herein.