

HR 9053

2012

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing June 2012 as "Caribbean
3 Heritage Month" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, from a region that conjures images of a scenic
6 paradise, Caribbean Americans are as vibrant as the islands from
7 which they come, possessing a wealth of talent and history that
8 reverberates throughout this great state and nation, and

9 WHEREAS, as educators, authors, community leaders,
10 activists, athletes, artists, musicians, and politicians,
11 Caribbean Americans have made their mark in every facet of our
12 society and have contributed to the betterment and diversity of
13 our state and nation, and

14 WHEREAS, counted among many famous sons and daughters of
15 the Caribbean are activist W.E.B. Du Bois; Secretary of the
16 Treasury Alexander Hamilton; Secretary of State Colin Powell;
17 actress Cicely Tyson; actor Sidney Poitier; author, poet, and
18 civil rights activist James Weldon Johnson; musician, actor, and
19 activist Harry Belafonte; Haitian Revolution General Henri
20 Christophe; actor and author Louise Bennett-Coverley; and
21 numerous others who have displayed great strength and resiliency
22 while serving as pioneers among the people of the Caribbean, and

23 WHEREAS, the modern political influences of Caribbean
24 Americans are evident in the election of former members of the
25 Florida House of Representatives, Jennifer Carroll of Trinidad
26 and Tobago, as Florida's first Caribbean American Lieutenant
27 Governor, and Ronald Brisé of Haiti, as a member of the Florida
28 Public Service Commission; the election of Phillip Brutus as the

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29 | first Haitian-American member of the Florida Legislature and
30 | Hazelle Rogers as the first Jamaican-American member of the
31 | Florida Legislature; and the continued representation in both
32 | the House of Representatives and the Senate by members from the
33 | Bahamas, the Cayman Islands, Haiti, and Jamaica, and

34 | WHEREAS, the United States has thrived as a country of
35 | immigrants, united by common values and by the promise of a
36 | better tomorrow, and

37 | WHEREAS, 2012 marks the 50th Anniversary of Independence
38 | for the islands of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, NOW,
39 | THEREFORE,

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41 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
42 | Florida:

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44 | That June 2012 is recognized as "Caribbean Heritage Month"
45 | in the State of Florida to encourage communities and individuals
46 | throughout the state and the nation to honor their cultural and
47 | historical bonds and be reminded that America's greatness lies
48 | in its diversity.