Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 81

By: Leftwich, Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Ballenger, Barrington, Bass, Bingman, Branan, Brogdon, Brown, Burrage, Coates, Coffee, Corn, Crain, Crutchfield, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Ellis, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Halligan, Ivester, Johnson (Constance), Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei, Myers, Newberry, Nichols, Paddack, Reynolds, Rice, Russell, Schulz, Sparks, Stanislawski, Sweeden, Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution praising 2009 Jim Thorpe Award winner Eric Berry; wishing him well in his professional career; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Eric Berry was born on December 29, 1988, in Fairburn, Georgia, where he attended Creekside High School. He played cornerback and quarterback in football while in high school, where he was a Parade All-American. Eric Berry was outstanding in track, setting school records in the long jump, was state champion in the 200-meter, and anchored the state title 4x400 relay squad. He was a National Honor Society member; and

WHEREAS, Eric Berry as a freshman at the University of Tennessee intercepted five passes for 222 yards. He was a unanimous Freshman All-American and the SEC Freshman Defensive Player of the Year, and he was on the All-SEC Freshman Academic Honor Roll; and

WHEREAS, Eric Berry as a sophomore was named SEC Defensive Player of the Year in 2008 and a Consensus All-American. He intercepted seven passes for 265 yards; and

WHEREAS, Eric Berry during his junior year at the University of Tennessee had two interceptions, 83 tackles, and two fumble returns. He was selected as the Volunteers' Team Captain. Eric Berry was named to Rivals.com Team of the Decade and to the Sports Illustrated 2000's All-Decade Team; and

WHEREAS, Eric Berry was a Jim Thorpe Award finalist in 2008 and in 2009 won the award in the most one-sided voting ever. His selection was based on his performance on the field, athletic ability, and character. He currently leads all NCAA players in total interceptions, interceptions per game, interception return yards, and interceptions returned for touchdowns. Eric Berry will enter the National Football League draft.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises University of Tennessee safety Eric Berry for winning the 2009 Jim Thorpe Award, given annually to college football's best defensive back by the Jim Thorpe Association in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate wishes Eric Berry well in his forthcoming career as a professional football player in the National Football League.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the 2009 Jim Thorpe Award winner, Eric Berry.

Adopted by the Senate the 3rd day of February, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this

4th **day of** February, **20** 10,

at 11:22 **o'clock** A **M.**

By: M. Susan Lang