

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 81

By: Leftwich

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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11  
12 WHEREAS, Eric Berry was born on December 29, 1988, in Fairburn,  
13 Georgia, where he attended Creekside High School. He played  
14 cornerback and quarterback in football while in high school, where  
15 he was a Parade All-American. Eric Berry was outstanding in track,  
16 setting school records in the long jump, was state champion in the  
17 200-meter, and anchored the state title 4x400 relay squad. He was a  
18 National Honor Society member; and

19 WHEREAS, Eric Berry as a freshman at the University of Tennessee  
20 intercepted five passes for 222 yards. He was a unanimous Freshman  
21 All-American, the SEC Freshman Defensive Player of the Year, and the  
22 All-SEC Freshman Academic Honor Roll; and  
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1       WHEREAS, Eric Berry as a sophomore was named SEC Defensive  
2 Player of the Year in 2008 and a Consensus All-American. He  
3 intercepted seven passes for 265 yards; and

4       WHEREAS, Eric Berry during his junior year at the University of  
5 Tennessee had two interceptions, 83 tackles, and two fumble returns.  
6 He was selected as the Volunteers' Team Captain. Eric Berry was  
7 named to Rivals.com Team of the Decade and to the Sports Illustrated  
8 2000's All-Decade Team; and

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

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

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

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

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

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