

1 HJR336  
2 160405-2  
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Colston  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 18-MAR-14

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3           COMMENDING OFFICER BYRON THOMPSON OF THE HUNTSVILLE  
4 POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2014 ALABAMA  
5 LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.  
6

7           WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
8 recognize Officer Byron Thompson of the Huntsville Police  
9 Department as a nominee for the 2014 Alabama Legislative Medal  
10 of Honor for Law Enforcement, Alabama's highest law  
11 enforcement award for extraordinary courage in the line of  
12 duty; and

13           WHEREAS, Officer Thompson has been with the  
14 Huntsville Police Department for nine years and serves as a  
15 Uniform Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, and is a  
16 member of the Mobile Field Force and Honor Guard Unit; and

17           WHEREAS, on July 10, 2013, Officer Thompson pulled  
18 up on an eight-vehicle traffic accident at Memorial Parkway  
19 and Airport Road and realized that one of the drivers was  
20 trapped in his vehicle; and

21           WHEREAS, while Officer Thompson and several citizens  
22 were trying to free the driver from the smoking vehicle, the  
23 engine burst into flames, with the driver's legs still pinned  
24 under the steering wheel; although the other citizens left,  
25 Officer Thompson continued his efforts to get the driver out

1 of the burning vehicle; another citizen then came to assist  
2 Officer Thompson as the passenger compartment began to fill  
3 with smoke, and flames were coming in through the front  
4 windshield; after several minutes, the two rescuers were able  
5 to remove the driver from the vehicle, but if not for the  
6 actions of Officer Thompson and the citizen who assisted him,  
7 the driver would most likely have died as a result of the  
8 fire; and

9 WHEREAS, Officer Thompson showed extreme bravery by  
10 staying in the burning vehicle until he was able to free the  
11 driver; and

12 WHEREAS, Officer Thompson was nominated for a Medal  
13 of Valor as a result of this incident, and on August 16, 2013,  
14 he was issued a Lifesaving Medal; in addition, Officer  
15 Thompson was awarded the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Sons  
16 of the American Revolution Heroism Medal; and

17 WHEREAS, Officer Thompson's dedicated service  
18 contributes greatly to the safety and quality of life of the  
19 citizens of Huntsville, and he is truly deserving of this  
20 distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of Honor  
21 for Law Enforcement; now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor  
24 Officer Byron Thompson of the Huntsville Police Department as  
25 a nominee for the 2014 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law

1        Enforcement and direct that he receive a copy of this  
2        resolution as evidence of our admiration and esteem.

