

1 HJR396
2 193088-1
3 By Representative Mooney
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 13-MAR-18

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8 RECOGNIZING ANDREW T. WALKER ON HIS SELECTION AS A
9 2018 YOUNG HERO OF ALABAMA.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations and congratulations
12 are herein proudly presented to Andrew T. Walker on his
13 outstanding achievement of being selected as a 2018 Young Hero
14 of Alabama; and

15 WHEREAS, the Young Heroes Program, presented by
16 Alabama Public Television, recognizes students in grades 9-12
17 who have excelled in academics, given of themselves through
18 public service, overcome adversity, or inspired others through
19 deeds and strength of character; and

20 WHEREAS, Andrew is an accomplished senior at
21 Florence High School in Florence, Alabama, where he is a
22 member of the Technology Student Association; he has received
23 a judge's award and placed 2nd in 2013 and 6th in 2014 in the
24 state Vex Robotics competition; and in 2018, he placed 12th in
25 the Best Robotics Competition; and

26 WHEREAS, since the age of 7, Andrew has maintained
27 his goal to be an electrical engineer and toward this goal he

1 works in the 12 for Life program, a cooperative education
2 program supported by Southwire Company; 12 for Life helps
3 students gain extra motivation to finish 12 years of school
4 and to enjoy better lives; 2018 marks Andrew's 2nd year
5 working with the program and money made from his job is saved
6 in hopes of attending college; and

7 WHEREAS, Andrew is very active in his community,
8 volunteering at the Kiwanis Pancake Day, the local Ups and
9 Downs thrift store, and assisting with his school's supply
10 drive; he enjoys making new projects, discovering what makes
11 things work, and mastering how to replicate them himself; and

12 WHEREAS, unknown to many around Andrew are the
13 struggles he has had to overcome to achieve his many
14 accomplishments; he has undergone many surgeries relating to
15 the functioning of his kidneys and he continues to face daily
16 challenges with Tourette Syndrome, a neurological disorder
17 characterized by repetitive, stereotyped, involuntary
18 movements and vocalizations called tics; because of his
19 condition, Andrew has become an advocate for people suffering
20 from Tourette Syndrome; and

21 WHEREAS, Andrew is active with the Alpha Phi Alpha
22 fraternity service organization and attends workshops every
23 other Sunday; and

24 WHEREAS, those who know Andrew see him as an
25 inspiration for facing his obstacles, dismantling them,
26 figuring them out, and reconfiguring them for success; he is

1 admired for his perseverance and ingenuity in the face of
2 adversity; and

3 WHEREAS, a worthy role model for countless young
4 Alabamians, Andrew espouses the meritorious characteristics of
5 the Young Heroes Program, and he is truly deserving of special
6 commendation and praise; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Andrew T. Walker is honored
9 and commended, and this resolution is offered to him in
10 highest tribute and with heartiest congratulations, as well as
11 with sincere best wishes for continued success in all future
12 endeavors.