

HJR321 INTRODUCED



1 HJR321
2 ZQ2CXKR-1
3 By Representatives Reynolds, Whitt, Moore (P), Whorton, Hall,
4 Daniels, Lamb, Rigsby, Lomax
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 01-May-25



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4 HJR_____ HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SHERIFF JOE WHEELER
5 PATTERSON.
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7 WHEREAS, Joe Wheeler Patterson, a lifelong resident
8 of the Huntsville-Madison County Community, dedicated 96
9 years to the service of his country, his state, and the
10 citizens of Madison County, Alabama; and

11 WHEREAS, Sheriff Patterson answered the call to serve
12 his nation by enlisting in the United States Army following
13 high school and bravely served in the Korean War; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1958, Sheriff Patterson began his
15 distinguished career in law enforcement with the Huntsville
16 Police Department, rising to the rank of Sergeant over the
17 burglary unit and later served with honor as the
18 administrative assistant to Mayor Joe Davis; and

19 WHEREAS, Sheriff Patterson was a proud graduate of
20 the 77th Session of the FBI National Academy in 1966, a
21 testament to his commitment to professionalism and advanced
22 law enforcement training; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1978, he was elected Sheriff of Madison
24 County and served four consecutive terms, leading with
25 integrity, compassion, and an unwavering dedication to
26 justice; and

27 WHEREAS, Sheriff Patterson's leadership extended
28 beyond the county as he was elected President of the Alabama



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Sheriffs Association in 1982 and was honored with induction into the Alabama Law Enforcement Hall of Fame in 1994; and

WHEREAS, he was a passionate advocate for the Alabama Sheriffs Youth Ranches, where he was instrumental in establishing a Madison County home that provided shelter, support, and hope to countless underprivileged children; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his law enforcement service, Sheriff Patterson gave of his time and talents as a board member of the Huntsville-Madison County Airport Authority for eight years, further demonstrating his commitment to the betterment of the region; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Patterson will forever be remembered not only for his decades of distinguished public service, but also for his steadfast character, deep compassion for others, and the countless lives he impacted along the way; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we honor the enduring legacy of Sheriff Joe Wheeler Patterson, a faithful servant, leader, and guardian of the community; this resolution stands as a permanent record of our respect, gratitude, and admiration for a life exceptionally lived.