

HR302 INTRODUCED



1 HR302
2 ARAH5SS-1
3 By Representatives Shaw, DuBose, Hulsey, Tillman, Mooney,
4 Faulkner
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 29-Apr-25



HR_____ COMMENDING HOOVER FIRE CHIEF CLAY BENTLEY ON BEING
SELECTED AS THE 2025 FIRE CHIEF OF THE YEAR BY THE ALABAMA
ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure,
highest commendations and congratulations are conveyed to
Hoover Fire Chief Clay Bentley on his selection as the 2025
Fire Chief of the Year by the Alabama Association of Fire
Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, this award, the most prestigious honor the
Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs can bestow upon its chief
fire officer executives, was conceived to recognize truly
outstanding fire chiefs whose actions and leadership in
their profession, home, community, and country serve as an
example and challenge for all other chief fire executives
throughout the southeast; and

WHEREAS, Chief Bentley started his journey in the
fire service at age 16 when he began volunteering with the
Thorsby Fire Department; upon graduating high school, he
attended the University of Montevallo where he volunteered
with the Montevallo Fire Department; after receiving his
Bachelor of Science in Business Management, he began working
for the Birmingham Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, he earned an Associate in Applied
Science degree in Fire Science Technology from Jefferson



HR302 INTRODUCED

29 State Community College, and in 1997, he joined the Hoover
30 Fire Department where he quickly excelled and advanced; and

31 WHEREAS, Chief Bentley acquired his paramedic license
32 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2003; in 2006,
33 he was promoted to Captain and served in that role until he
34 was promoted to Battalion Chief - Training Office in January
35 2016 and put in charge of health, safety, and training; and

36 WHEREAS, in 2017, Hoover Mayor Frank Brocato named
37 Chief Bentley as Hoover's Fire Chief; he is applauded for
38 his work in creating the High School Fire Academy at the
39 Hoover Riverchase Career Connection Center (RC3) and leading
40 his department in maintaining an ISO Class 1 Certification,
41 demonstrating exceptional department capabilities and the
42 highest rating of fire protection; during his tenure, Hoover
43 Fire has also achieved accreditation status through the
44 Center for Public Safety Excellence; and

45 WHEREAS, Chief Bentley was selected as the 2025 Fire
46 Chief of the Year by the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs
47 from a pool of approximately 200 fire chiefs; he is known
48 for running one of the premier fire departments in the State
49 of Alabama and always being an example of professionalism,
50 integrity, and character; and

51 WHEREAS, his nomination letter emphasizes that Chief
52 Bentley believes all of his success is a result of being
53 faithful to the Lord and placing the needs of his employees
54 first, and during tough times, he has always continued to
55 strive for excellence and lead his department in a positive
56 manner; now therefore,



HR302 INTRODUCED

57 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
58 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we highly commend Hoover Fire
59 Chief Clay Bentley on being named the 2025 Fire Chief of the
60 Year by the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs, and we
61 hereby dedicate this resolution to him with utmost gratitude
62 and admiration, along with best wishes for continued success
63 during his retirement.