

SJR42 INTRODUCED



1 SJR42

2 FKPGTCC-1

3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,
4 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,
6 Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Roberts,
7 Sessions, Shelnut, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 19-Mar-25



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4 SJR___ HONORING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR BY
5 THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF TUSCALOOSA.
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7 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Alabama takes great pride
8 in recognizing the efforts of the men and women serving in
9 law enforcement; and

10 WHEREAS, each year since the 1940s, the Exchange Club
11 of Tuscaloosa hosts several events that honor amazing
12 individuals across Tuscaloosa County who have gone beyond
13 the call of duty to protect their communities; one of these
14 events is the Law Enforcement Officers of the Year ceremony,
15 which brings out agencies across Tuscaloosa County to honor
16 a member from each for their outstanding bravery and courage
17 in their work; and

18 WHEREAS, the Northport Police Department's honoree
19 for this year's award was Officer Jose Martinez; he has
20 consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication, a strong
21 work ethic, and a deep commitment to both public safety and
22 community encouragement in his role as traffic officer; and

23 WHEREAS, the Tuscaloosa Police Department's honoree
24 was Sergeant Devin Kerstetter; in March of 2024, Sergeant
25 Kerstetter responded to a house fire; he was one of the
26 first to arrive on scene, assisted in finding a way inside
27 the home, and helped save the victims; and

28 WHEREAS, the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Office's



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29 honoree was Deputy Deonte Washington; shortly after
30 beginning his career, Deputy Washington responded to a fire
31 in January 2024 where he braved the fire, cleared the
32 building, found the source of the fire, and aided in saving
33 the victims; and

34 WHEREAS, Investigator Jessica Wilson from The
35 University of Alabama Police Department and Senior Trooper
36 Heath Heaton from the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency
37 both were selected for their courage in the face of
38 adversity; and

39 WHEREAS, these officers exhibit the epitome of
40 selflessness and what it means to protect; we thank them
41 extensively for their bravery, honor, and sacrifice; now
42 therefore,

43 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
44 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That with great pride and special
45 pleasure, these officers are highly honored and commended on
46 their unwavering commitment to the protection of this state
47 and Tuscaloosa County, and we wish them success in all
48 future endeavors.