

# HJR182 ENROLLED



1 HJR182  
2 ARDPJSS-2  
3 By Representatives Ingram, Sells, McClammy, Morris, Hassell  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 24-Feb-26



## HJR182 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 RECOGNIZING MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF DERRICK CUNNINGHAM FOR  
5 BEING NAMED THE 2026 SHERIFF OF THE YEAR.

6

7 WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, we  
8 highly honor Montgomery County Sheriff Derrick Cunningham  
9 for being named the 2026 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year  
10 by the National Sheriffs' Association; and

11 WHEREAS, Derrick Cunningham was born in Tacoma,  
12 Washington, and moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, with his  
13 family when he was 12 years old; prior to graduating from  
14 Tuscaloosa County High School, he joined the Alabama  
15 National Guard in 1984, proudly serving until he retired  
16 with 24 years of service; and

17 WHEREAS, he graduated from the police academy in  
18 1989; within 10 years, he had worked his way up to the  
19 Detective Division investigating homicides; he later became  
20 a member of the International Homicide Investigators  
21 Association; in 1999, Montgomery County Sheriff Steve  
22 Marshall appointed him as Chief Deputy, and he served in  
23 that capacity for 15 years; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2015, he was sworn in as Montgomery  
25 County's first African American sheriff; in this capacity,  
26 Sheriff Cunningham heads an agency of more than 400  
27 employees and a \$50.1 million budget that spans a 643  
28 square-mile jurisdiction; for several decades, he has been



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29 among the most visible supporters of community-based  
30 policing, youth mentoring programs, and utilizing smartphome  
31 and other technology to better serve the community and  
32 reduce crime; and

33 WHEREAS, Sheriff Cunningham earned a Bachelor of  
34 Science from Troy University and a Master of Science from  
35 the University of Phoenix; he has attended numerous schools  
36 and seminars since the start of his law enforcement career;  
37 he is a 2007 graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy Class  
38 231; he serves as the point of contact for Homeland Security  
39 for Montgomery County, overseeing funding for the county;  
40 and

41 WHEREAS, in September 2015, Sheriff Cunningham  
42 graduated from the 108th National Sheriff's Institute in  
43 Aurora, Colorado, and two years later he was sworn in as  
44 Sergeant of Arms with the Alabama Sheriff's Association; in  
45 2019 Sheriff Cunningham was sworn in as Vice President of  
46 the Alabama Sheriff's Association; in January 2020 he was  
47 sworn in as President, and he served two consecutive terms  
48 until 2022; and

49 WHEREAS, Sheriff Cunningham has been appointed to  
50 several statewide committees by the Governor and remains  
51 involved in the Montgomery community by serving on several  
52 nonprofit agencies, some of which include the Kiwanis Club,  
53 YMCA, Tri-County Alzheimer's Association, and the Victims of  
54 Crime and Leniency; and he is also a member of Omega Psi Phi  
55 Fraternity, Incorporated; now therefore,



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56           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
57 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Sheriff Derrick Cunningham  
58 is highly honored and commended on being named the 2026  
59 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year by the National  
60 Sheriffs' Association; and we convey deepest admiration and  
61 pride for all he has done to protect and honor the State of  
62 Alabama and all of its residents.

