

HJR216 INTRODUCED



1 HJR216
2 KHIZKAA-1
3 By Representatives Bedsole, Pettus, Treadaway, Stringer,
4 Reynolds, Hendrix
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 10-Mar-26



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HJR___ COMMENDING TROOPER JOSHUA WASDEN AS A RECIPIENT OF THE 2026 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we recognize Alabama State Trooper Joshua Wasden as a recipient of the 2026 Alabama Legislative Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement for exemplary courage in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2025, Trooper Joshua Wasden responded to a call from a motorist in medical distress traveling northbound on I-65 near mile marker 136 in Butler County; the driver, John Wilbur Dotson, Jr. of Fairhope, Alabama, was instructed by the operator to pull over and await emergency responders; Trooper Wasden was in the area at the time and responded to the scene; and

WHEREAS, when Trooper Wasden approached the car, he discovered the driver was unresponsive to touch or voice commands; he immediately recognized the life-threatening nature of the situation, returned to his vehicle to retrieve a first aid kit, and then returned to the driver's side door to better assess the patient; and

WHEREAS, within minutes Greenville Emergency Medical Services and a Butler County Sheriff's Deputy arrived on the scene; Trooper Wasden informed the ambulance crew of his



HJR216 INTRODUCED

29 observations and assisted with loading the patient onto a
30 stretcher for transport; rather than returning to service,
31 Trooper Wasden recognized the need for assistance and
32 entered the patient compartment of the ambulance to assist
33 the medics; and

34 WHEREAS, Trooper Wasden immediately assumed the task
35 of providing manual ventilation using a bag-valve mask with
36 supplemental oxygen while the medics focused on other tasks;
37 almost immediately, normal skin color began returning to the
38 patient's face; once the patient was stabilized for
39 transport, he was rushed to Regional Medical Center in
40 Greenville for emergency treatment, then later to a hospital
41 in Mobile for more definitive care; and

42 WHEREAS, following the incident, Trooper Wasden made
43 contact with the patient's spouse, Beth Dotson, to advise
44 her of the situation; it was later determined that the
45 driver was diagnosed with atrial fibrillation and has
46 recovered well under the care of a cardiologist; and

47 WHEREAS, Trooper Wasden went above and beyond the
48 call of duty during this event; he recognized the urgency
49 for lifesaving intervention and the need to assist the
50 ambulance crew as a collaborative effort; without prompt and
51 effective ventilation and cardioversion at the scene, the
52 likelihood of a positive outcome or survival was extremely
53 low for the driver; Trooper Wasden's selfless dedication to
54 duty and public service as an Alabama State Trooper
55 undeniably contributed to a successful outcome; he is truly
56 deserving of special recognition; now therefore,



HJR216 INTRODUCED

57 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
58 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Trooper
59 Joshua Wasden as a recipient of the 2026 Alabama Legislative
60 Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement, and we
61 dedicate this resolution to him in utmost gratitude,
62 admiration, and esteem.