

# HJR217 ENROLLED



1 HJR217  
2 KHIZVAA-2  
3 By Representatives Bedsole, Pettus, Treadaway, Stringer,  
4 Reynolds, Hendrix  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 10-Mar-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2

3 COMMENDING HOUSTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S LIEUTENANT ROBERT  
4 HOPKINS FOR RECEIVING THE LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW  
5 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

6

7 WHEREAS, with highest respect and most sincere  
8 admiration, we commend Houston County Sheriff's Lieutenant  
9 Robert Hopkins for earning the Legislative Medal of Honor  
10 for Law Enforcement Officers; and

11 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Hopkins was nominated for this  
12 honor by Houston County Sheriff Donald J. Valenza; he has  
13 consistently demonstrated extraordinary courage,  
14 professionalism, and dedication to public service, but on  
15 October 12, 2025, he displayed exceptional bravery and  
16 selflessness during a critical incident that occurred while  
17 he was working an off-duty detail in Dothan, Alabama; and

18 WHEREAS, on that afternoon, Lieutenant Hopkins heard  
19 gunshots emanating from the mall entrance of Dillard's; as  
20 he exited the store, he observed a male who had been shot  
21 and was lying in front of the barbershop entrance; several  
22 bystanders informed Lieutenant Hopkins that the gunman had  
23 fled into the barbershop; after relaying this information  
24 and his location to dispatch, Lieutenant Hopkins pulled the  
25 injured man away from the entrance; a United States Army  
26 veteran offered assistance, so Lieutenant Hopkins instructed  
27 him to retrieve the first aid bag from his patrol car; and

28 WHEREAS, shortly after, a Dothan police officer



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29 arrived, and Lieutenant Hopkins provided cover for the  
30 barbershop entrance while the officer relocated the injured  
31 man; as they reached cover, several additional Dothan police  
32 officers arrived; Lieutenant Hopkins gathered backup, and  
33 the group proceeded to clear the barbershop, ensuring the  
34 safety of its occupants; and

35 WHEREAS, during the clearance, Lieutenant Hopkins  
36 observed a semiautomatic pistol in the bathroom, and one  
37 individual was taken into custody and escorted out; after  
38 securing the area, law enforcement discovered that the rear  
39 emergency exit door was unsecured and stationed officers in  
40 that area; upon Lieutenant Hopkins' return to the injured  
41 man, Dothan Fire Department responders had arrived, and the  
42 original officer was assessing his injuries; Lieutenant  
43 Hopkins retrieved his first aid bag and, as additional law  
44 enforcement officers secured the mall, he ensured that  
45 Dillard's employees were cleared from the bathrooms and that  
46 their statements were obtained; and

47 WHEREAS, the actions demonstrated by Lieutenant  
48 Hopkins embody the core values of courage, honor, and  
49 sacrifice; despite significant personal risk, he acted  
50 decisively to protect the lives and safety of others,  
51 exemplifying the very highest standards of law enforcement  
52 service; and

53 WHEREAS, beyond this heroic act, Lieutenant Hopkins  
54 has maintained an outstanding record of service with the  
55 Houston County Sheriff's Office, earning the respect of  
56 peers, supervisors, and community members alike; now



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57 therefore,

58 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
59 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Houston County Sheriff's  
60 Lieutenant Robert Hopkins is duly recognized with the  
61 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement Officers for  
62 his integrity, compassion, and commitment to duty, as these  
63 attributes reflect credit not only upon him but upon the  
64 entire law enforcement profession.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be  
66 entered into the official record as a lasting tribute to  
67 Lieutenant Robert Hopkins' exemplary leadership and enduring  
68 impact on the residents of Houston County.

