

HJR217 INTRODUCED



1 HJR217
2 KHIZVAA-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 HOUSTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S LIEUTENANT ROBERT HOPKINS FOR RECEIVING THE LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

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

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

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



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

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

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

54 WHEREAS, beyond this heroic act, Lieutenant Hopkins
55 has maintained an outstanding record of service with the
56 Houston County Sheriff's Office, earning the respect of



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57 peers, supervisors, and community members alike; now
58 therefore,

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

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