

HJR218 INTRODUCED



1 HJR218
2 ZQ62FWW-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 ALEA PILOT BENJAMIN M. CARSWELL FOR RECEIVING THE 2026 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

WHEREAS, it is with the highest commendation that we recognize ALEA Pilot Benjamin M. Carswell 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 December 20, 2025, Pilot Carswell was driving in the area of Mobile Highway when he heard a loud explosion consistent with a transformer failure and observed a bright flash; believing the incident could involve a vehicle crash, he immediately responded to investigate; and

WHEREAS, upon arrival, he discovered an overturned vehicle engulfed in flames after striking a power pole; he observed one occupant trapped inside and unresponsive to verbal commands and promptly radioed dispatch to report the crash and vehicle fire, ensuring emergency responders were alerted without delay; and

WHEREAS, faced with an imminent threat to life, Pilot Carswell took immediate action, utilizing his fire extinguisher in an attempt to suppress the flames and protect the trapped occupant; when the extinguisher proved insufficient, he radioed for additional fire extinguishers;



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29 and

30 WHEREAS, he continued fire suppression efforts as
31 Montgomery Police Department personnel arrived on the scene;
32 although unable to fully extinguish the fire, he remained
33 actively engaged until Montgomery Fire and Rescue arrived;
34 Pilot Carswell then obtained another fire extinguisher and
35 successfully extinguished the flames prior to water being
36 applied from the fire truck, significantly reducing the
37 immediate danger to the occupant; and

38 WHEREAS, once Montgomery Fire and Rescue began
39 extrication operations, Pilot Carswell assisted by operating
40 a fire hose to keep the vehicle cooled, allowing
41 firefighters to concentrate on safely extracting the
42 occupants; and

43 WHEREAS, it was later determined that a second
44 occupant was inside the vehicle but was not initially
45 visible; both occupants sustained serious injuries; however,
46 due in large part to Pilot Carswell's swift, decisive, and
47 courageous actions, the fire was extinguished before it
48 could result in fatalities; and

49 WHEREAS, Pilot Benjamin M. Carswell's quick and
50 steady response, personal courage, and relentless efforts
51 under extremely hazardous conditions directly contributed to
52 saving the lives of both occupants and exemplify the highest
53 standards of public service, bringing great credit upon
54 himself and the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency; now
55 therefore,



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56 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
57 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby honor ALEA Pilot
58 Benjamin M. Carswell as a recipient of the 2026 Alabama
59 Legislative Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement,
60 and we dedicate this resolution to him with utmost
61 gratitude, admiration, and esteem.