

HR13 INTRODUCED



1 HR13
2 4U9JVRR-1
3 By Representatives Faulkner, Carns
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26



1

2

3

4 HR_____ RECOGNIZING MOUNTAIN BROOK POLICE OFFICER RICHARD
5 KNECHT FOR RECEIVING THE SAFE SCHOOLS LEADERSHIP AWARD.

6

7 WHEREAS, it is with profound appreciation and deepest
8 admiration that we recognize Mountain Brook, Alabama, Police
9 Officer Richard Knecht, who is also the School Resource
10 Officer (SRO) for Mountain Brook High School, for receiving
11 the Safe Schools Leadership Award for his outstanding
12 dedication to school safety; and

13 WHEREAS, the award was presented to Officer Knecht at
14 The Alabama Association of School Resource Officers (TAASRO)
15 Conference held June 2-6, 2025, at the Orange Beach
16 Convention Center; the conference, attended by 1,200 school
17 resource officers and school administrators from Alabama and
18 neighboring states, celebrated excellence in school safety;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Officer Knecht's service as a police officer
21 began in Bessemer in 2000; he transferred to Mountain Brook
22 in 2003, and he has been assigned as the Mountain Brook High
23 School (MBHS) SRO for more than eight years, where he is
24 loved and appreciated by the student body; and

25 WHEREAS, nominated for the Safe Schools Leadership
26 Award by Mountain Brook Municipal Judge K.C. Hairston and
27 former high school AP Chemistry teacher Bryan Rosenstiel,
28 Officer Knecht was honored for his leadership and commitment

HR13 INTRODUCED



29 that stood out among his peers; and

30 WHEREAS, in addition to this honor, Officer Knecht
31 and fellow Mountain Brook SRO Lance Ziska were recognized as
32 TAASRO School Safety Specialists, an elite designation held
33 by only 15 officers statewide; this achievement reflects
34 rigorous training, including National Association of School
35 Resource Officers basic and advanced classes, multiple state
36 conferences, State Department of Education courses, and
37 substantial in-service hours focused on school safety; and

38 WHEREAS, Officer Knecht has served as a TAASRO Board
39 Member for the last five years, representing the Region IV
40 counties of Greene, Hale, Jefferson, Pickens, Sumter, and
41 Tuscaloosa; in 2023, the Mountain Brook Police Department
42 (MBPD) was honored by TAASRO with the SRO Team Award, and
43 Officer Knecht was among those included in that honor; and

44 WHEREAS, Officer Knecht, a father of five, describes
45 his assignment as a Mountain Brook SRO as the most rewarding
46 he has held in the MBPD; inspired partly by his interactions
47 with MBHS students, he recently created the new MBPD Autism
48 Awareness patch, and he has begun selling them to raise
49 funds for the Autism Society of Alabama and raise awareness
50 for Autism Spectrum Disorder; now therefore,

51 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
52 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby most highly commend
53 Officer Richard Knecht for his faithful service and devotion
54 to school safety, and we extend to him our heartfelt
55 gratitude, respect, and sincere best wishes for continued
56 health, happiness, and fulfillment in all the days to come.