

HR27 INTRODUCED



1 HR27
2 CX35ZQQ-1
3 By Representatives Faulkner, Carns
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 15-Jan-26



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



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that stood out among his peers; and

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

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

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

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