

1 HR154
2 116850-3
3 By Representative Irons
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 26-JAN-10

8 COMMENDING LIEUTENANT CLEVELAND R. WATKINS, JR., FOR
9 PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT.
10

11 WHEREAS, it is a great pleasure to extend highest
12 commendation to Lieutenant Cleveland R. Watkins, Jr., for his
13 outstanding record of achievement during many years of
14 conscientious and competent service to the State of Alabama
15 and the nation; and

16 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Watkins has announced his
17 retirement in January 2010 from his position in the State of
18 Alabama Department of Revenue, where he has served since 1985;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, this commendable public servant holds the
21 distinction of having worn four uniforms: Alabama Revenue
22 Enforcement Officer, Alabama State Trooper, Police
23 Communications Operator, and United States Army; and he is a
24 proud veteran of both the Vietnam War and the Gulf War; and

25 WHEREAS, he was hired by the State of Alabama in
26 1973 as a Communications Operator, becoming the first Black
27 operator at the Florence post; after attending Trooper

1 Academy, he continued to make history in 1975 by becoming the
2 first Black State Trooper of Perry County; in 1985, he
3 transferred to the State of Alabama Department of Revenue as a
4 Revenue Enforcement Officer; and

5 WHEREAS, prior to embarking on his career with the
6 State of Alabama, he served with honor and distinction in the
7 United States Army, holding the rank of Sergeant and leading a
8 platoon during the Vietnam War; and from 1977-2004, he was in
9 the Army Reserve and was placed on active duty as an
10 instructor of National Guard and Army Reserve Units that were
11 being deployed to Iraq; his total military time was 32 years
12 and 10 months; and

13 WHEREAS, a native of Rogersville, Alabama, he
14 graduated from East End High School in 1963; Lieutenant
15 Watkins has been a faithful member of Mt. Moriah P.B. Church
16 for more than 30 years, where he has served in many capacities
17 including Chairman of the Deacon Board, member of the Board of
18 Trustees, and director of the Baptist Training Union; in
19 addition, he has volunteered many hours to the Red Cross and
20 other worthy community causes; and

21 WHEREAS, through the years and in all his endeavors,
22 Lieutenant Watkins has earned widespread respect for his
23 exceptional abilities and tireless dedication; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
25 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Lieutenant Cleveland R.
26 Watkins, Jr., is honored and commended for his many years of
27 outstanding service, and this resolution is offered in highest

1 tribute and deepest appreciation to him on the occasion of his
2 well-earned retirement from his position with the Alabama
3 State Department of Revenue.