

1 HJR522  
2 118877-1  
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Newton (D) and Baker (A)  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 04-MAR-10

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8 COMMENDING STATE TROOPER MICHAEL GILLIS AS A NOMINEE  
9 FOR THE 2010 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW  
10 ENFORCEMENT.  
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12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
13 recognize State Trooper Michael Gillis, as a nominee for the  
14 2010 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement, the  
15 state's highest law enforcement award for extraordinary  
16 courage in the line of duty; and

17 WHEREAS, on March 10, 2009, Trooper Gillis was  
18 instrumental in curtailing the single deadliest crime in the  
19 recorded history of Alabama; that afternoon, a lone gunman  
20 terrorized the citizens of Geneva and Coffee Counties,  
21 murdering ten victims and injuring six others, before  
22 ultimately taking his own life; and

23 WHEREAS, at great risk to himself, Trooper Gillis  
24 participated in the high-speed pursuit of the perpetrator;  
25 during the course of this pursuit, Trooper Gillis' vehicle was  
26 struck several times by gunfire and he was injured by broken  
27 glass, but he maintained pursuit nonetheless; while he and his

1 comrades were unable to prevent the gunman escaping justice by  
2 committing suicide, their courageous and selfless actions over  
3 the course of the engagement likely saved the lives of several  
4 more victims; and

5 WHEREAS, Trooper Gillis is a worthy exemplar of  
6 those caring and dedicated men and women who stand ever ready  
7 to provide prompt and professional response and investigative  
8 assistance in times of crisis, and he is highly deserving of  
9 this distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of  
10 Honor; now therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
12 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor  
13 State Trooper Michael Gillis as a nominee for the 2010  
14 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that  
15 he receive a copy of this resolution as a token of our  
16 admiration and esteem.