

1 HJR534

2 118892-1

3 By Representatives Sanderford, Newton (D) and Baker (A)

4 RFD: Rules

5 First Read: 04-MAR-10

8 COMMENDING MONTGOMERY POLICE SERGEANT JENNIFER SMITH
9 AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2010 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR
10 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

11
12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we
13 recognize Montgomery Police Sergeant Jennifer Smith, as a
14 nominee for the 2010 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law
15 Enforcement, the state's highest law enforcement award for
16 extraordinary courage in the line of duty; and

17 WHEREAS, on May 7, 2009, during a flashflood that
18 crippled Montgomery's roadways, Sergeant Smith placed herself
19 at great personal risk for the sake of the people of
20 Montgomery; at the intersection of McGeehee Road and Debbie
21 Drive, Sergeant Smith assisted in efforts to save a motorist
22 whose vehicle had been swept off the road by the current;
23 Sergeant Smith and Officer Damian Lomeli left the safety of
24 their patrol car and, as a result of the extreme depth of the
25 floodwaters, were forced to swim into the drain in an attempt
26 to rescue the motorist; with no thought for their own safety,
27 they persisted in their attempts to extract the victim from

1 the automobile, until the car was swept away in the current,
2 killing the motorist; and

3 WHEREAS, despite the emotional toll exacted by the
4 experience, the officers returned to the shallow portion of
5 the flooded road and, taking only a moment to rest, returned
6 to work; unable to change clothes and exhausted, Sergeant
7 Smith and Officer Lomeli continued directing traffic to
8 prevent further deadly situations from arising; and

9 WHEREAS, Sergeant Smith is a worthy exemplar of
10 those caring and dedicated men and women who stand ever ready
11 to provide prompt and professional response and investigative
12 assistance in times of crisis, and she is highly deserving of
13 this distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of
14 Honor; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor
17 Montgomery Police Sergeant Jennifer Smith as a nominee for the
18 2010 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct
19 that she receive a copy of this resolution as a token of our
20 admiration and esteem.