

1 HJR543
2 118881-2
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Newton (D) and Baker (A)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 04-MAR-10

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 COMMENDING CHIEF DEPUTY TONY HELMS OF THE GENEVA
4 COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2010 ALABAMA
5 LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.
6

7 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we
8 recognize Chief Deputy Tony Helms of the Geneva County
9 Sheriff's Department, as a nominee for the 2010 Legislative
10 Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement, the state's highest law
11 enforcement award for extraordinary courage in the line of
12 duty; and

13 WHEREAS, on March 10, 2009, Chief Deputy Helms was
14 instrumental in curtailing the single deadliest crime in the
15 recorded history of Alabama; that afternoon, a lone gunman
16 terrorized the citizens of Geneva and Coffee Counties,
17 murdering ten victims and injuring six others, before
18 ultimately taking his own life; and

19 WHEREAS, at great risk to himself, Chief Deputy
20 Helms participated in the high-speed pursuit of and ultimately
21 exchanged gunfire with the perpetrator; while he and his
22 comrades were unable to prevent the gunman escaping justice by
23 committing suicide, their courageous and selfless actions over
24 the course of the engagement likely saved the lives of several
25 more victims; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Helms is a worthy exemplar of
2 those caring and dedicated men and women who stand ever ready
3 to provide prompt and professional response and investigative
4 assistance in times of crisis, and he is highly deserving of
5 this distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of
6 Honor; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor
9 Chief Deputy Tony Helms of the Geneva County Sheriff's
10 Department as a nominee for the 2010 Legislative Medal of
11 Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that he receive a copy of
12 this resolution as a token of our admiration and esteem.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 09-MAR-10.

Greg Pappas
Clerk

Senate

23-MAR-10

Adopted