

1       HR424  
2       130402-1  
3       By Representatives Sanderford, Colston and Baker  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 26-APR-11

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8 COMMENDING HUNTSVILLE POLICE OFFICER GRADY THIGPEN  
9 AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2011 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR  
10 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.  
11

12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
13 recognize Huntsville Police Officer Grady Thigpen as a nominee  
14 for the 2011 Alabama Legislative Medal of Honor for Law  
15 Enforcement, Alabama's highest law enforcement award for  
16 extraordinary courage in the line of duty; and

17 WHEREAS, on September 6, 2010, Officer Thigpen and  
18 his assist were dispatched to check a suspicious vehicle  
19 parked behind a church, where there had also been a report of  
20 a gunshot fired in the immediate area; when Officer Thigpen  
21 arrived, he saw a female seated on the ground three to five  
22 feet in front of the vehicle, holding a gun to her mouth;  
23 without hesitation, Officer Thigpen reached the female and  
24 removed the weapon before she could discharge it; and

25 WHEREAS, Officer Thigpen's quick actions prevented  
26 harm to a person who had already demonstrated suicidal intent  
27 by firing a round just moments before he arrived on the scene;

1 his actions were remarkable in that once he recognized the  
2 threat, he did not hesitate to take immediate action, which  
3 resulted in preventing the person from taking her own life;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Officer Thigpen demonstrated the ultimate  
6 level of professionalism, dedication, and concern for others  
7 at the risk of his own life; and

8 WHEREAS, Officer Thigpen is a worthy exemplar of  
9 those caring and dedicated men and women who stand ever ready  
10 to provide prompt and professional response in times of  
11 crisis, and he is highly deserving of this distinguished  
12 nomination for the Legislative Medal of Honor for Law  
13 Enforcement; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
15 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize and honor  
16 Huntsville Police Officer Grady Thigpen as a nominee for the  
17 2011 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct  
18 that he receive a copy of this resolution as a token of our  
19 admiration and esteem.