

1 HR342  
2 140040-1  
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Colston  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 05-APR-12

8 COMMENDING BIRMINGHAM POLICE OFFICER WILLIE WILLIS  
9 AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2012 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR  
10 FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

11  
12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
13 recognize Birmingham Police Officer Willie Willis as a nominee  
14 for the 2012 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, Officer Willis is an eight-year veteran of  
18 the Department and is assigned to the West Precinct; and

19 WHEREAS, on October 6, 2011, Officer Willis was  
20 flagged down by a citizen who told him that two females were  
21 fighting in the street at Arkadelphia Road; when he responded  
22 to the location, he noticed that they had made their way to  
23 the bridge that overpasses Interstate 20/59; he quickly  
24 realized that the encounter was not a fight but that one of  
25 the females was threatening to jump off the bridge onto the  
26 Interstate below; and

WHEREAS, Officer Willis approached the female, attempting to calm her down and persuade her to come to him; she refused all requests and stated that she was going to kill herself, and he saw that she was intent on carrying out her threat when she started to climb over the railing; Officer Willis then acted quickly, rushing to her and deploying his "Taser" in order to stop her movement before she could fully position herself over the edge; he was thus able to gain control of the situation, and paramedics were called to transport her to the hospital for treatment; and

WHEREAS, at a location where others have taken their own lives in the past, Officer Willis' quick and competent actions saved the life of a person intent on doing harm to herself; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize and honor  
Birmingham Police Officer Willie Willis as a nominee for the  
2012 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct  
that he receive a copy of this resolution as evidence of our  
admiration and esteem.