

1 HJR271
2 151685-1
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Colston
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 10-APR-13

8 COMMENDING SHERIFF KENNY HARDEN OF BUTLER COUNTY AS
9 A NOMINEE FOR THE 2013 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR
10 LAW ENFORCEMENT.

11
12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we
13 recognize Sheriff Kenny Harden of Butler County as nominee for
14 the 2013 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 August 28, 2012, around midnight,
18 Sheriff Harden received notification from the ABI, United
19 States Marshal, Wilcox County Sheriff's Department, and Camden
20 Police Department that they were facing a hostage situation in
21 Wilcox County involving an escaped inmate from the Department
22 of Corrections, who was holding a female hostage; and

23 WHEREAS, this inmate had been incarcerated at the
24 Butler County Correctional Facility numerous times, and was
25 known to Sheriff Harden; the subject had been in a standoff
26 with authorities since early afternoon and, after negotiations
27 failed, requested that Sheriff Harden be called; and

WHEREAS, after Sheriff Harden spoke with the subject, Major Albert McKee was notified of the situation and the two law enforcement officers drove to Wilcox County and were able to speak with the inmate; after approximately an hour, the inmate requested to see his mother and be brought back to Butler County to be housed until the proper authorities could pick him up; when an agreement was reached and the hostage was set free, the subject was allowed to speak with his mother and was then transported back to Butler County Correctional Facility to await transfer; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Harden thereby managed to obtain the inmate's surrender and the hostage's freedom with no harm to anyone, an exceptionally successful outcome in a potentially devastating situation; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Harden is a wise and brave law enforcement officer and 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 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor Sheriff Kenny Harden of Butler County as a nominee for the 2013 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that he receive a copy of this resolution as evidence of our admiration and esteem.