

1       SJR56  
2       159008-1  
3       By Senator Waggoner  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 20-FEB-14

8 COMMENDING NICHOLAS HILLBURN FOR EXCEPTIONAL COURAGE  
9 AND ATHLETIC ABILITY IN APPREHENDING A FLEEING FELON.  
10

11 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that  
12 Nicholas Hillburn is recognized for his exceptional valor in  
13 using his athletic prowess to tackle and subdue a  
14 purse-snatcher on the run at a shopping center in Birmingham,  
15 Alabama; and

16 WHEREAS, an 18-year-old senior, Nicholas Hillburn is  
17 a standout player as a free safety for the Vestavia Hills High  
18 School football team; he was at The Summit when the robbery  
19 occurred, on a shopping trip with his father, who also spotted  
20 the fleeing suspect in the parking lot; and

21 WHEREAS, motivated by witnessing the crime in  
22 progress and encouraged by an off-duty law enforcement  
23 officer, Nicholas Hillburn made his move, without regard to  
24 the danger to himself; and

25 WHEREAS, Nicholas Hillburn successfully tackled the  
26 29-year-old purse-snatcher and demobilized him until the  
27 arrest could be made; and

1               WHEREAS, the purse was returned to the 60-year-old  
2 victim; and

3               WHEREAS, Nicholas Hillburn refused to accept the  
4 accolades conveyed to him, insisting that it was merely a case  
5 of being in the right place at the right time, but accuracy  
6 demands at least one addition to that explanation: the right  
7 person being in the right place at the right time; and

8               WHEREAS, in an era when an entire generation of  
9 teenagers is subjected to critical scrutiny and emphasis on  
10 youth athletics is continually questioned, the heroism and  
11 capability of Nicholas Hillburn will long endure as the source  
12 of justifiable pride to the people of the State of Alabama; he  
13 is truly deserving of our highest commendation and heartfelt  
14 gratitude; now therefore,

15              BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Nicholas Hillburn is hereby  
17 most highly honored for his selfless courage and extraordinary  
18 adeptness in tackling a purse-snatcher in flight at The Summit  
19 in Birmingham on February 17, 2014, and it is directed that a  
20 copy of this resolution be provided to him as evidence of the  
21 esteem in which he is held.