

1       HR159  
2       168352-1  
3       By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Rowe  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 28-APR-15

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 COMMENDING ALABAMA STATE TROOPER DAVID BOX AS A  
9 NOMINEE FOR THE 2015 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR  
10 LAW ENFORCEMENT.  
11

12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
13 recognize Alabama State Trooper David Box as a nominee for the  
14 2015 Alabama Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement,  
15 Alabama's highest law enforcement award for extraordinary  
16 courage in the line of duty; and

17 WHEREAS, on Thursday, December 11, 2014, Trooper Box  
18 was conducting a traffic stop in Marion County on a vehicle  
19 driven by Ms. Denise Carleton of Cummings, Georgia, when a  
20 tractor trailer traveling westbound crossed the fog line onto  
21 the shoulder of the roadway in a direct path towards Trooper  
22 Box and Ms. Carleton; and

23 WHEREAS, Trooper Box, who realized a collision was  
24 imminent, shouted at Mrs. Carleton to move her vehicle to  
25 avoid being struck by the oncoming tractor trailer; as Trooper  
26 Box began to run down the shoulder embankment, the tractor  
27 trailer crashed into the rear of his patrol vehicle before

1 colliding into Mrs. Carleton's vehicle with her inside; the  
2 initial impact forced Trooper Box's vehicle into his path,  
3 which subsequently struck and threw him into a drainage ditch;  
4 as a result of the impact, Trooper Box sustained serious  
5 injuries that rendered him immobile; and

6 WHEREAS, lying face down on the ground with both of  
7 his arms underneath him and with no regard to his own health  
8 and safety, Trooper Box directed surrounding witnesses to  
9 check on Mrs. Carleton and the driver of the tractor trailer;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, despite incurring major injuries, Trooper  
12 Box remained alert and calm; as he began to slide further down  
13 the embankment from the initial point of impact, he had the  
14 presence of mind to realize he needed to get in a stabilized  
15 position to prevent further injury; he instructed the tractor  
16 trailer driver to sit in front of him to keep his body stable;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Service personnel arrived  
19 and stabilized Trooper Box enough so he could be airlifted to  
20 Druid City Hospital, where it was determined that his injuries  
21 were so severe that he needed to be immediately airlifted to  
22 The University of Alabama Birmingham Hospital for emergency  
23 surgery and treatment; and

24 WHEREAS, throughout his ordeal, Trooper Box  
25 maintained his composure and upheld his Department's noble  
26 motto, placing the safety and well-being of others before his  
27 own; and

1           WHEREAS, Trooper Box demonstrated quick thinking,  
2 diligence, and sheer determination in a highly dangerous  
3 situation; his loyalty and unwavering commitment to serve and  
4 preserve lives were evidenced by his willingness to make the  
5 ultimate sacrifice while in the line of duty; and

6           WHEREAS, a pillar of the community, Trooper Box has  
7 shown tremendous compassion for others on more than one  
8 occasion; his heroic actions during the collision do not  
9 surprise those who are fortunate enough to know him; his  
10 positive outlook has been a source of inspiration and  
11 admiration; throughout his distinguished career, he has  
12 revealed courage and selfless service to the citizens of the  
13 State of Alabama; and

14           WHEREAS, Trooper Box epitomizes the qualities of  
15 those who serve and protect, and he is truly deserving of this  
16 distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of Honor  
17 for Law Enforcement; now therefore,

18           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
19 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize and honor  
20 Trooper David Box as a nominee for the 2015 Legislative Medal  
21 of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that he receive a copy  
22 of this resolution as evidence of our admiration and esteem.