

1 HJR312
2 185361-1
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Rowe
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 18-APR-17

8 COMMENDING CORPORAL TOLIVER AND OFFICER LEONARD OF
9 THE IRONDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT AS NOMINEES FOR THE 2017
10 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.
11

12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we
13 recognize Corporal Toliver and Officer Leonard of the Irondale
14 Police Department as nominees for the 2017 Alabama Legislative
15 Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement, Alabama's highest law
16 enforcement award for extraordinary courage in the line of
17 duty; and

18 WHEREAS, on June 9, 2016, Corporal Toliver responded
19 to a call reporting a suspect looking into vehicles in a
20 shopping center parking lot and pulling on door handles;
21 Corporal Toliver located the suspect and began talking to him;
22 the suspect ran and jumped in his vehicle and attempted to
23 flee; Officer Leonard, who had also responded to the call,
24 reached through the suspect's vehicle window in an attempt to
25 grab the keys out of the ignition; the suspect accelerated his
26 vehicle dragging Officer Leonard across the parking lot;
27 Officer Leonard rolled out of the path of the car and avoided

1 being run over by the speeding vehicle; Corporal Toliver
2 jumped into his vehicle and pursued the fleeing suspect;
3 Officer Leonard joined Corporal Toliver in the pursuit through
4 Irondale and eventually into Birmingham city limits; the
5 suspect eventually ran through a stop sign and struck another
6 vehicle; the suspect crawled through the window of his
7 incapacitated car and fled on foot; Corporal Toliver and
8 Officer Leonard proceeded to chase the suspect on foot; they
9 deployed their tasers causing the suspect to trip and fall;
10 the suspect pulled a gun out of his waistband and pointed it
11 at Corporal Toliver attempting to shoot him; both officers
12 fired their duty weapons and shot the suspect, who died on the
13 scene; and

14 WHEREAS, placed in a life-threatening situation and
15 without a moment's hesitation, Officer Toliver and Officer
16 Leonard placed themselves in the line of peril and stopped an
17 individual, who proved to be a danger to the public and showed
18 he would do anything to avoid apprehension, from harming or
19 killing anyone; and

20 WHEREAS, Officer Toliver and Officer Leonard
21 demonstrated immense courage, diligence, and quick response in
22 a life-threatening situation; their loyalty and unwavering
23 commitment to protect and serve the residents of Irondale were
24 evidenced through their willingness to make the quick and
25 proper response in order to protect the lives of others; and

26 WHEREAS, Officer Toliver and Officer Leonard
27 epitomize the qualities of those who serve and protect, and

they are truly 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 Officer Toliver and Officer Leonard as nominees for the 2017 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that they receive a copy of this resolution as evidence of our admiration and esteem.