

# HJR218 ENROLLED



1 HJR218  
2 ZQ62FWW-2  
3 By Representatives Bedsole, Pettus, Treadaway, Stringer,  
4 Reynolds, Hendrix  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 10-Mar-26



## HJR218 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 COMMENDING ALEA PILOT BENJAMIN M. CARSWELL FOR RECEIVING THE  
5 2026 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD FOR LAW  
6 ENFORCEMENT.

7

8 WHEREAS, it is with the highest commendation that we  
9 recognize ALEA Pilot Benjamin M. Carswell as a recipient of  
10 the 2026 Alabama Legislative Meritorious Service Award for  
11 Law Enforcement for exemplary courage in the line of duty;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, on December 20, 2025, Pilot Carswell was  
14 driving in the area of Mobile Highway when he heard a loud  
15 explosion consistent with a transformer failure and observed  
16 a bright flash; believing the incident could involve a  
17 vehicle crash, he immediately responded to investigate; and

18 WHEREAS, upon arrival, he discovered an overturned  
19 vehicle engulfed in flames after striking a power pole; he  
20 observed one occupant trapped inside and unresponsive to  
21 verbal commands and promptly radioed dispatch to report the  
22 crash and vehicle fire, ensuring emergency responders were  
23 alerted without delay; and

24 WHEREAS, faced with an imminent threat to life, Pilot  
25 Carswell took immediate action, utilizing his fire  
26 extinguisher in an attempt to suppress the flames and  
27 protect the trapped occupant; when the extinguisher proved  
28 insufficient, he radioed for additional fire extinguishers;



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29 and

30 WHEREAS, he continued fire suppression efforts as  
31 Montgomery Police Department personnel arrived on the scene;  
32 although unable to fully extinguish the fire, he remained  
33 actively engaged until Montgomery Fire and Rescue arrived;  
34 Pilot Carswell then obtained another fire extinguisher and  
35 successfully extinguished the flames prior to water being  
36 applied from the fire truck, significantly reducing the  
37 immediate danger to the occupant; and

38 WHEREAS, once Montgomery Fire and Rescue began  
39 extrication operations, Pilot Carswell assisted by operating  
40 a fire hose to keep the vehicle cooled, allowing  
41 firefighters to concentrate on safely extracting the  
42 occupants; and

43 WHEREAS, it was later determined that a second  
44 occupant was inside the vehicle but was not initially  
45 visible; both occupants sustained serious injuries; however,  
46 due in large part to Pilot Carswell's swift, decisive, and  
47 courageous actions, the fire was extinguished before it  
48 could result in fatalities; and

49 WHEREAS, Pilot Benjamin M. Carswell's quick and  
50 steady response, personal courage, and relentless efforts  
51 under extremely hazardous conditions directly contributed to  
52 saving the lives of both occupants and exemplify the highest  
53 standards of public service, bringing great credit upon  
54 himself and the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency; now  
55 therefore,



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56           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
57   HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby honor ALEA Pilot  
58   Benjamin M. Carswell as a recipient of the 2026 Alabama  
59   Legislative Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement,  
60   and we dedicate this resolution to him with utmost  
61   gratitude, admiration, and esteem.



**HJR218 Enrolled**

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in  
and was passed by the House 17-Mar-26.

John Treadwell  
Clerk

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Senate **02-Apr-26**

Adopted