

1 HJR297  
2 192697-1  
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Rowe  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 06-MAR-18

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8 COMMENDING OFFICER JOSHUA GARLEN AND OFFICER JOSHUA  
9 COLLINS OF THE MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT AS NOMINEES FOR THE  
10 2018 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.  
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12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we  
13 recognize Officer Joshua Garlen and Officer Joshua Collins of  
14 the Madison Police Department as a nominees for the 2018  
15 Alabama Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement,  
16 Alabama's highest law enforcement award for extraordinary  
17 courage in the line of duty; and

18 WHEREAS, for exceptionally valorous and intelligent  
19 police services, protecting the lives and safety of others as  
20 well as their own, during the attempted pursuit and  
21 apprehension of a domestic violence offender, Officer Joshua  
22 Garlen and Officer Joshua Collins distinguished themselves  
23 among their peers for decisive action that ended an immediate  
24 threat to officers, the general public, and the victim of  
25 domestic violence; and

26 WHEREAS, on October 1, 2017, both of the radios were  
27 broadcast within minutes of each other; Officer Garlen and

1 Officer Collins responded to a domestic violence in progress  
2 call; Officer Collins arrived to find a lone female standing  
3 in the driveway of her residence "visibly distraught" and  
4 "crying hysterically"; learning that she was the victim of the  
5 domestic violence call, Officer Collins further discovered  
6 that the offender has stolen her money and her truck; and

7 WHEREAS, Officer Garlen was arriving in the area  
8 when Officer Collins' radio transmission describing the  
9 offender and the vehicle description, and direction of travel  
10 went out to all units; in an effort to defend himself from a  
11 violent assault with a truck and prevent further injury to  
12 himself and others, Officer Garlen drew his service weapon and  
13 fired four times through his windshield and into the rear  
14 window of the truck, each shot narrowly missing his attacker;  
15 he was able to successfully end the assault; and

16 WHEREAS, rather than request medics for themselves,  
17 Officer Garlen and Officer Collins, having obtained control of  
18 the offender, requested medics respond to ensure that  
19 residents of the area were not injured during the pursuit or  
20 from the discharge of Officer Garlen's weapon; it was not  
21 until after the residents were safe that Officer Garlen and  
22 Officer Collins advised they had been injured; and

23 WHEREAS, Officer Garlen and Officer Collins  
24 demonstrated courageous, calm, and intelligent quick thinking;  
25 they took action to defend their lives and reduce the danger  
26 to the lives of fellow officers involved in the pursuit as  
27 well as innocent citizens, and they are truly deserving of

1       this distinguished nomination for the Legislative Medal of  
2       Honor for Law Enforcement; now therefore,

3                       BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4       HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor  
5       Officer Joshua Garlen and Officer Joshua Collins as nominees  
6       for the 2018 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement  
7       and direct that each of them receive a copy of this resolution  
8       as evidence of our admiration and esteem.