

- 1 HR184
- 2 R3XUMYM-1
- 3 By Representatives Bedsole, Reynolds, Treadaway, Pettus,
- 4 Faulkner, Harbison
- 5 RFD:
- 6 First Read: 11-Apr-24



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4 HR _____ COMMENDING SHERIFF HEATH JACKSON AS A RECIPIENT OF
5 THE 2024 ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD FOR
6 LAW ENFORCEMENT.

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8 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we 9 recognize Sheriff Heath Jackson of Escambia County Sheriff's 10 Office as a recipient of the 2024 Alabama Legislative 11 Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement for exemplary 12 courage in the line of duty; and

13 WHEREAS, on May 14, 2023, Mother's Day, two families 14 were kayaking on Burnt Corn Creek in Brewton when two 15 adults' and two children's kayaks flipped over; two adults and two small children had to hang on to a limb of a tree in 16 the middle of the water to keep from drowning; the rest of 17 18 the group made it to land after being carried away further 19 down the creek; one of the adults was able to call for help 20 and notify the authorities; and

21 WHEREAS, Sheriff Jackson, who was off duty, heard the 22 call for help and drove his jet ski to where the kayaks had 23 overturned; he noted that the recent rain caused the water 24 to be high and the current to be very strong and rough; 25 Sheriff Jackson managed to rescue each individual, one at a 26 time, and take them to safety; the eight survivors and Sheriff Derrick Cunningham, of the Montgomery County 27 28 Sheriff's Office, credit Sheriff Jackson for saving the



29 kayakers' lives; and

30 WHEREAS, the quick thinking efforts of Sheriff Heath Jackson, while off duty, and his decision to take a jet ski 31 through rough waters to reach the scene of the accident, 32 33 served a major role in saving the lives of two families; he 34 is truly deserving of special recognition; now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 35 36 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby honor Sheriff Heath Jackson as a recipient of the 2024 Alabama Legislative 37 38 Meritorious Service Award for Law Enforcement, and we 39 dedicate this resolution to him in utmost gratitude, admiration, and esteem. 40