

1 HJR254
2 176654-2
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Baker and Rowe
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 07-APR-16

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 COMMENDING OFFICER JAMES HARTON OF THE DECATUR
4 POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A NOMINEE FOR THE 2016 ALABAMA
5 LEGISLATIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.
6

7 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that we
8 recognize Officer James Harton of the City of Decatur Police
9 Department as a nominee for the 2016 Alabama Legislative Medal
10 of Honor for Law Enforcement, Alabama's highest law
11 enforcement award for extraordinary courage in the line of
12 duty; and

13 WHEREAS, on May 23, 2015, a small pickup truck left
14 the roadway of U. S. Highway 31 and plunged into Flint Creek;
15 the driver, Shane Edge, was still trapped inside as the
16 vehicle began to submerge into the dark waters; and

17 WHEREAS, three Decatur Police Department officers,
18 Sergeant John Sharp, Officer Larry Sharpley, and Officer James
19 Harton, responded to the emergency call and rushed to assist
20 Mr. Edge; ignoring their own safety, the officers entered the
21 water, broke the windshield, and pulled Mr. Edge to safety;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, without a moment's hesitation, Officer
24 James Harton placed himself in the path of danger to protect

1 Mr. Edge; his quick thinking and actions saved the life of Mr.
2 Edge; and

3 WHEREAS, Officer James Harton demonstrated immense
4 courage, diligence, and quick response in a highly dangerous
5 situation; his loyalty and unwavering commitment to protect
6 and serve the residents of Decatur were evidenced through his
7 willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice in order to
8 preserve a life; and

9 WHEREAS, Officer James Harton epitomizes the
10 qualities of those who serve and protect, and he is truly
11 deserving of this distinguished nomination for the Legislative
12 Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and honor
15 Officer James Harton as a nominee for the 2016 Legislative
16 Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement and direct that he receive
17 a copy of this resolution as evidence of our admiration and
18 esteem.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17

Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 12-APR-16.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

19-APR-16

Adopted