

1 HJR426
2 141808-2
3 By Representatives Merrill, Baker, Ball, Bandy, Barton,
4 Baughn, Beckman, Beech, Black, Boman, Boothe, Boyd, Bracy,
5 Bridges, Brown, Burdine, Buskey, Buttram, Carns, Chesteen,
6 Clouse, Coleman, Collins, Colston, Davis, DeMarco, Drake,
7 England, Farley, Faust, Fincher, Ford, Forte, Galliher,
8 Gaston, Givan, Greer, Greenson, Grimsley, Hall, Hammon, Harper,
9 Henry, Hill, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard (J), Hubbard (M), Hurst,
10 Ison, Jackson, Johnson (K), Johnson (R), Johnson (W), Jones,
11 Kennedy, Knight, Laird, Lee, Lindsey, Long, Love, Mask,
12 McAdory, McCampbell, McClammy, McClendon, McClurkin,
13 McCutcheon, McMillan, Melton, Millican, Mitchell, Moore (B),
14 Moore (M), Morrow, Newton (C), Newton (D), Nordgren, Oden,
15 Patterson, Payne, Poole, Rich, Roberts, Robinson (J), Robinson
16 (O), Rogers, Sanderford, Scott, Sessions, Shiver, Thomas,
17 Todd, Treadaway, Tuggle, Vance, Wallace, Warren, Weaver,
18 Williams (D), Williams (J), Williams (P), Wood and Wren
19 RFD:
20 First Read: 26-APR-12

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ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTATING
TORNADOS OF APRIL 27, 2011, AND COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING
EFFORTS OF FIRST RESPONDERS STATEWIDE.

WHEREAS, in recognition of observing the first
anniversary of the unprecedented tornadoes that ravaged our
state, it is appropriate to honor all the first responders --
paid and volunteer firefighters and medics, law enforcement
personnel, and city work crews -- as well as the church
groups, civic organizations, and private citizens whose
actions saved countless Alabamians and thereby kept the loss
of life statewide to no more than the number recorded, a
tragic toll exceeding 247 that could have been worse; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2011, the EF5 tornado that
devastated Alabama reached wind peaks in excess of 210 miles
per hour and carved a path more than 1.25 miles wide,
resulting in the worst natural disaster ever to hit the State
of Alabama and one of the most destructive tornadoes in United
States history; and

WHEREAS, with first responders setting the pace, the
people of Alabama came together to rescue victims, to secure
homes and businesses, to salvage properties, and to begin the

1 overwhelming task of attempting to restore the shattered
2 communities to a sense of normalcy; and

3 WHEREAS, volunteers followed the lead of our
4 exceptionally competent professionals, donating countless
5 hours of service and creating a spirit not just of survival
6 but of revitalization; as the days passed, in addition to
7 neighbors helping neighbors, the kindness of strangers became
8 a reality, providing an unexpected dimension to the values of
9 faith, family, and community that traditionally sustain us;
10 now therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
12 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That no words can convey the depth
13 of gratitude owed to our first responders and to all the
14 selfless, tireless individuals who worked together toward
15 recovery, but it is nevertheless in highest tribute to them
16 that we hereby recognize the first anniversary of the April
17 27, 2011, tornado outbreak that devastated the State of
18 Alabama.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
20 resolution be provided for appropriate display, as evidence of
21 the admiration and appreciation of the people of the State of
22 Alabama for our valiant firefighters, medics, and law
23 enforcement personnel.

