

House Resolution 530

By: Representatives Collins of the 71st, Kelley of the 16th, Smith of the 18th, Huddleston of the 72nd, and Burns of the 159th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending SFC William "Butch" Thornton upon his retirement; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, SFC William "Butch" Thornton has served with honor and distinction as part
3 of the Georgia State Patrol since 1985, beginning his career as a utility worker in the mail
4 room; and

5 WHEREAS, as post commander of Post 4, which serves Carroll and Douglas counties, he
6 has led his employees in enforcing traffic laws, supporting local agencies, and upholding the
7 four core beliefs of the Department of Public Safety: trust, fortitude, compassion, and
8 professionalism; and

9 WHEREAS, during his distinguished tenure, SFC William "Butch" Thornton has completed
10 more than 4,500 hours of training in the areas of impaired driving recognition, firearms,
11 accident investigation/reconstruction, child trafficking, gang violence, and community
12 policing; and

13 WHEREAS, he is an honest and dedicated public servant who strives for excellence in all
14 of his endeavors and whose primary concern is the welfare and safety of the citizens of
15 Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, SFC William "Butch" Thornton is highly regarded by the citizens of his
17 community and by state and local government officials as a man of unquestioned integrity
18 and dedication to the administration of justice and sound principles of law enforcement; and

19 WHEREAS, this spirited law enforcement professional has exhibited extraordinary devotion
20 to duty, outstanding loyalty, fine leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all of his
21 duties; and

22 WHEREAS, his inspiring commitment to the welfare of others is an outstanding example of
23 the positive effect law enforcement professionals have on the lives and well-being of others;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, SFC William "Butch" Thornton's efficient and effective commitment to
26 excellence will be sorely missed following his retirement on April 1, 2023; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that gratitude is expressed for the unique and
28 often unheralded contributions of local law enforcement professionals on behalf of the
29 citizens of this state.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body commend the care, courage, sympathy, and selfless dedication
32 exhibited by SFC William "Butch" Thornton during his career and extend best wishes for
33 future health and happiness.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to SFC
36 William "Butch" Thornton.