

By Representatives Edwards, Dockery, Putnam, Stabins and
Laurent

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House Resolution

A resolution paying tribute to Police Officer
Johnnie Norris Patterson, Jr.

WHEREAS, Police Officer Johnnie Norris Patterson, Jr.,
was born March 14, 1971, in Fort Bragg, N.C., the son of
Johnnie N. and Gloria A. Patterson, and

WHEREAS, Officer Johnnie Patterson was employed by the
Winter Haven Police Department on June 24, 1996, as a Police
Officer I, having served as an auxiliary officer with the
department for the ten months immediately preceding, and

WHEREAS, with his father riding with him through the
police ride-along program, Officer Patterson was gunned down
on March 8, 1997, after making a routine traffic stop, the
first Winter Haven police officer in four decades to meet his
death in the line of duty, and

WHEREAS, more than 3,000 public safety officers
converged on Winter Haven to join with mourners to pay their
respects to the young officer, and

WHEREAS, Police Officer Johnnie Norris Patterson, Jr.,
will be remembered with gratitude and pride as one who gave
his all in the performance of the work he loved, NOW,

THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
Florida:

That the House of Representatives pauses in its
deliberations to pay tribute to Police Officer Johnnie Norris
Patterson, Jr.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution
2 be presented to Johnnie N. Patterson, Sr., and Gloria A.
3 Patterson and to Vivian M. Braddee as a tangible token of the
4 sentiments expressed herein.
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