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House Resolution

A resolution honoring Gadsden County Sheriff William A. Woodham.

WHEREAS, with a career in law enforcement dating back to 1966 when he became a trooper in the Florida Highway Patrol, William A. Woodham was appointed Sheriff of Gadsden County on April 14, 1971, was subsequently elected to that office in 1972, and has been reelected every four years since that time to become the longest-serving sheriff currently in office in Florida, and

WHEREAS, William A. Woodham was born May 20, 1941, in Dothan, Alabama, received his childhood education in the public schools of that city, and earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Chipola Junior College and a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Corrections from Florida State University, and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Woodham has received numerous honors during his tenure in office, including his having been named Gadsden County's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, recognized by Big Bend Law Enforcement Association for "heroic actions" leading to the apprehension of a kidnapper, and appointed to the Florida Governor's Commission on Child Support Enforcement; and he has held the elective offices of Vice President, Chairman of the Board, and President of the Florida Sheriff's Association, and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Woodham, recently recognized by his peers as "Dean of Florida Sheriffs" in acknowledgment of his having served the greatest number of years in office among currently

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serving sheriffs, has chosen to retire in November 2004 after more than 33 years as Sheriff of Gadsden County, and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Woodham, with his wife, Karen, and their three children, has been a much respected part of the social and civic affairs of the Gadsden community and has made monumental contributions in the area of law enforcement in the county, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That Sheriff William A. Woodham is honored for his faithful service to the citizens of Gadsden County and to the State of Florida, is congratulated upon his pending retirement, and is wished much success and happiness during the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to William A. Woodham, Sheriff of Gadsden County, Florida, as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.