

House Resolution 1102

By: Representatives Birdsong of the 104th, Parham of the 94th, Graves of the 106th, and Ray of the 108th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Bibb County Sheriff Jerry Modena and his officers; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, on Saturday, January 18, 2004, tactical teams from the Jones County Sheriff's
3 Office, the Bibb County Sheriff's Office, and the Newton County Sheriff's Office, together
4 with officers from the Sheriff's Offices of Peach County, Crawford County, and Monroe
5 County, members of the Middle Georgia Fugitive Squad, and National Guard personnel
6 executed a search warrant at a residence in Covington, Georgia, upon suspicion of illegal
7 dogfighting; and

8 WHEREAS, upon entering the house, the law enforcement officers found that it had been
9 converted for use as a location to conduct dogfights with wooden fighting pits constructed
10 in two rooms of the house; and

11 WHEREAS, when the officers arrived, a fight was in progress between two pit bulldogs and
12 spectators were engaged in illegal gambling activity; and

13 WHEREAS, 123 offenders were arrested at the residence, all of whom were charged with
14 cruelty to animals, dogfighting, and commercial gambling; and

15 WHEREAS, in addition to making the arrests, the officers seized \$140,000.00 in cash, 53
16 vehicles, 13 firearms, over three pounds of marijuana, and approximately seven grams of
17 cocaine, and trophies intended to be awarded to the winners of the dogfights were
18 confiscated as evidence; and

19 WHEREAS, 13 abused dogs used for fighting were seized and turned over to animal control
20 units; and

1 WHEREAS, the raid, which Bibb County Sheriff Jerry Modena helped coordinate, was one
2 of the most successful raids of its kind in memory and struck a blow to the heart of the cruel
3 and shameful activity of illegal dogfighting in this state; and

4 WHEREAS, the members of the Bibb County Sheriff's Office involved in the raid include:
5 Sheriff Jerry Modena; Major David Montford; Captain Neil Godbee; Lieutenant Harry
6 Colbert; Lieutenant Richard Crooms; Lieutenant Billy Johnson; Investigator Derrick
7 Henderson; Investigator Greg Rachel; Investigator Jim Carroll; Investigator Chris Patterson;
8 Investigator Ted Darley; Investigator Jeff Whisler; Investigator Mike Jones; Investigator
9 Duncan Mathews; Investigator Jack Cleveland; Deputy Scottie Evans; Deputy Mike Thomas;
10 Deputy Greg Jones; Deputy Mike Moore; Deputy Paul Jackson; Deputy Roderick Booze;
11 Deputy Chris Harrell; Deputy David Holiday; and Deputy Donnie Moore.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
13 the members of this body commend Bibb County Sheriff Jerry Modena and his officers for
14 their participation in the highly successful raid on the dogfighting activity in Covington and
15 for striking a crippling blow to this cruel and illegal activity.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
17 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sheriff Jerry Modena.