

House Resolution 1104

By: Representatives Birdsong of the 104th and Parham of the 94th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Jones County Sheriff Robert N. Reece 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 was coordinated by Jones County Sheriff Robert N. Reece, was
2 one of the most successful raids of its kind in memory and struck a blow to the heart of the
3 cruel and shameful activity of illegal dogfighting in this state; and

4 WHEREAS, the members of the Jones County Sheriff's Office involved in the raid include:
5 Sheriff Robert N. Reece; Captain Earl M. Humphries Jr.; Captain Billy Mitchell; Lieutenant
6 Frank Barber; Lieutenant Melvin Johnson; Lieutenant Guy Mosteller; Lieutenant Jimmy
7 Black; Investigator Gerry Nelson; Investigator Philip Green; Sgt. Shane Moody; Deputy
8 James Clark; Deputy Kenny Gleaton; Deputy Boise Hunt; Deputy Matt McCollum; Deputy
9 Ed Bailey; Deputy Ed Barbee; Deputy Harley Davis; Deputy Kenny Allen; and Deputy
10 Jimmy Burnette.

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

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sheriff Robert N. Reece.