

## House Resolution 1106

By: Representatives Birdsong of the 104<sup>th</sup> and Parham of the 94<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Jones County Emergency Management Agency (EMA); and for other  
2 purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, 13 abused dogs used for fighting were seized and turned over to animal control  
21 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 Emergency Management Agency involved  
5 in the raid were: Alan Green; Steve Hoyt; Gary Harrell; and Bill Williams.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
7 the members of this body commend the Jones County Emergency Management Agency for  
8 its participation in the highly successful raid on the dogfighting activity in Covington and for  
9 striking a crippling blow to this cruel and illegal activity.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
11 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Jones County  
12 Emergency Management Agency.