

## House Resolution 1108

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

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force; 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

21 WHEREAS, the raid was one of the most successful raids of its kind in memory and struck  
22 a blow to the heart of the cruel and shameful activity of illegal dogfighting in this state; and

1 WHEREAS, the members of the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force include: W. S.  
2 Robertson; Jeff Wessell; Patty Herb; Maurice Dudley; Tracy English; Joe Wooten; Kasey  
3 Rousseau; Sidney Herb; Robert Spires; Will Hawkins; and Robert Reece.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
5 the members of this body commend Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force for its  
6 participation in the highly successful raid on the dogfighting activity in Covington and for  
7 striking a crippling blow to this cruel and illegal activity.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Southeast Regional Fugitive  
10 Task Force.