

House Resolution 1969

By: Representatives Borders of the 175th and Black of the 174th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Commander Steve Heaton for his contributions to the Valdosta Police
2 Department; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Commander Heaton has led the Investigative Bureau of the Valdosta Police
4 Department since February, 1996; and

5 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Heaton has helped to expand the bureau's capabilities
6 including the creation of a crime lab at police headquarters and increasing the abilities of the
7 department's crime scene unit; and

8 WHEREAS, under Commander Heaton's leadership, the Investigative Bureau of the Valdosta
9 Police Department has consistently maintained a crime clearance rate well above the national
10 average; and

11 WHEREAS, when Commander Heaton arrived in Valdosta, the city police department was
12 in need of major restructuring and, in conjunction with Police Chief Fran Simons,
13 Commander Heaton and his fellow commanders collectively restored the community's
14 confidence in the Valdosta Police Department, which is now a nationally credited
15 department; and

16 WHEREAS, after a successful career with the Valdosta Police Department, Commander
17 Heaton will soon take on his next challenge in law enforcement as police chief in
18 Fayetteville, Georgia.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body recognize Commander Steve Heaton for his contributions to the
21 Valdosta Police Department.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Commander Steve Heaton.