

1 HJR480
2 143112-1
3 By Representative Merrill
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 10-MAY-12

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8 NAMING THE BRIDGE OVER HURRICANE CREEK ON HIGHWAY
9 216 IN TUSCALOOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA, THE HORACE AND THELMA
10 SELLERS BRIDGE.

11
12 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that in
13 Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, we recommend naming the Bridge
14 over Hurricane Creek the Horace and Thelma Sellers Bridge; and

15 WHEREAS, James Horace Sellers was born May 11, 1918,
16 in rural Tuscaloosa County; his wife, Thelma Cordella Clements
17 Sellers was born on October 16, 1921; Horace and Thelma were
18 married on September 2, 1940; they had three children, Billy
19 Ray Sellers (Barbara Clark Sellers), Linda Sellers Dill
20 (Freddie Eugene Dill), and Walter Lee Sellers (Lucy Rosenfeld
21 Sellers); and

22 WHEREAS, after marrying Thelma, Mr. and Mrs. Sellers
23 began living their lives in Peterson; he began Sellers
24 Trucking Company in 1945, originally a logging company; in
25 1963, Billy, his oldest son, began working with him; Sellers
26 Trucking Company employed anywhere from 15 to 40 persons
27 during its 58 years in business; their youngest son, Lee,

1 joined the company in 1979 and with his father, began
2 Fleetwood Trucking Company, an-over-the-road division of
3 Sellers Trucking; it employed an additional 60 employees; it
4 still operates in Fleetwood, Alabama; Horace and his sons
5 often rehired workers who had left or quit without a reason;
6 they always knew what a risk this was but were determined to
7 give employees a second and even third chance to make things
8 right; and

9 WHEREAS, Horace Sellers became a deacon at Ruhama
10 Baptist Church, the same church where his father so often
11 preached; he remained a deacon until his health kept him from
12 serving the community he loved so well; his son, Billy also
13 served as deacon for 25 years; Horace was able to use his
14 compassion as well as his business sense to aid the church in
15 assisting multitudes of people over the years; people who came
16 to him for assistance were never turned down, even if they had
17 borrowed from him before; and

18 WHEREAS, Horace Sellers was well known for his fear
19 of tornadoes, but even this was an opportunity for him to aid
20 the community; he installed a storm shelter with a tunnel from
21 his house all the way underneath his yard and out to the
22 highway; this gave easy access to anyone who lived nearby,
23 especially the trailer park inhabitants who lived across the
24 road; these shelters provided much needed protection during
25 the horrible April 27, 2011, tornado for untold numbers; and

26 WHEREAS, Horace Sellers was a businessman, a deacon,
27 a father, a grandfather, and a friend; he helped untold

1 numbers of people and taught his children and grandchildren
2 what true charity, compassion, and love really is; now
3 therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
5 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby name the bridge
6 over Hurricane Creek on Highway 216 in Tuscaloosa County,
7 Alabama, the Horace and Thelma Sellers Bridge and request the
8 appropriate officials to place and maintain signs or markers
9 as provided in this resolution.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
11 resolution be provided to Horace Sellers so that this
12 meritorious designation is known.