

HJR159 INTRODUCED



1 0F3IGG-1

2 By Representatives Brown, Wilcox, Stringer, Pringle, Bracy,

3 Shirey, Clarke, Drummond

4 RFD: RULES

5 First Read: 04-May-23

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7 2023 Regular Session



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HJR___ DESIGNATING THE BRIDGE ON ALABAMA STATE ROUTE 193 THAT SPANS THE THEODORE INDUSTRIAL CANAL IN MOBILE COUNTY AS THE VICTOR BIRCH MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

WHEREAS, it is with the highest accolade that we honor Mr. Victor Birch by requesting that the Department of Transportation designate the bridge on Alabama State Route 193, also known as Rangeline Road, that spans the Theodore Industrial Canal in Mobile County as the Victor Birch Memorial Bridge; and

WHEREAS, Victor Birch was a lifelong resident of Mobile, Alabama; on September 25, 2022, at 61 years of age, he was tragically killed in a head-on collision on the bridge that will soon be named for him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birch was much loved in his community; he was an avid runner who encouraged and inspired others to live active lifestyles; he was a member of several local running groups, including the Blue Bell Bombers, which he helped to start; he mentored many new runners who credit him with giving them the encouragement they needed to achieve their goals and cross the finish line; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Birch ran a total of 16 different marathons and was the first place winner of the Apalachicola, Florida, inaugural marathon in 2010; in 2021, Mr. Birch entered and completed an IRONMAN competition in



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29 Waco, Texas, and qualified for the national IRONMAN race;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, Mr. Birch was a member of St. Rose of Lima
32 Catholic Church, where he served on the parish council and
33 generously gifted his time and talent with its programs and
34 events; he will be remembered and cherished by his loving
35 family and the large community where he lived, served, and
36 mentored; now therefore,

37 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
38 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Department of
39 Transportation is encouraged to coordinate with local
40 governing officials to consider designating the bridge on
41 Alabama State Route 193 that spans the Theodore Industrial
42 Canal as the Victor Birch Memorial Bridge and erect
43 appropriate signs or markers, consistent with applicable
44 requirements and laws, in recognition of this designation.