

- 1 UIFPGD-2
- 2 By Senator Weaver
- 3 RFD: RULES
- 4 First Read: 17-Jul-23
- 5 2023 Second Special Session



1 Enrolled, An Act, 2 3 4 SJR RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17, 2023, AS HANK WILLIAMS 5 DAY. 6 7 WHEREAS, Hiram "Hank" Williams was born to parents 8 Lon and Lillian Williams in Mount Olive, Alabama, on 9 September 17, 1923; and 10 WHEREAS, at an early age, Williams developed a love of music and was soon taught to play guitar by blues 11 musician Rufus "Tee Tot" Payne, who performed on the streets 12 13 of Greenville and Montgomery; and 14 WHEREAS, after winning a Montgomery talent show at 15 age 13 by performing his self-penned song, "WPA Blues," 16 Williams became a popular performer on local radio and in 17 bars, honky tonks, and other venues throughout Alabama; and 18 WHEREAS, after signing with the Acuff-Rose publishing 19 firm, Williams scored his first national recording hit with "Move It On Over" in 1947 and later followed with hits that 20 included "Your Cheatin' Heart," "Jambalaya," "Kawliga," "I'm 21 22 So Lonesome I Could Cry," "My Bucket's Got a Hole in It," "Mind Your Own Business," "Hey Good Lookin'," "Honky Tonk 23 24 Blues," "Lovesick Blues," "You Win Again," "I Can't Help 25 It," and other lasting classics in the American songbook; 26 and WHEREAS, Williams was one of the most popular live

27 WHEREAS, Williams was one of the most popular live 28 performers of his time; the audience at his Grand Ole Opry



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29 debut demanded an unprecedented six encores before allowing 30 him to leave the stage; and

31 WHEREAS, during his career he scored 41 songs on the 32 Billboard charts and was among the first songwriters to have 33 the songs he penned crossover from the country music charts 34 to the pop music charts; and

35 WHEREAS, Williams is one of only 14 artists and 36 executives in history to be honored with induction in both 37 the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of 38 Fame; and

39 WHEREAS, while en route to a New Year's Day concert 40 in Canton, Ohio, in 1953, Williams died just outside of Oak 41 Hill, West Virginia, in the back of the Cadillac convertible 42 automobile in which he was traveling; and

43 WHEREAS, following his passing, Williams' popularity 44 and legend continued to grow while to this day his music has 45 influenced countless performers and artists across multiple 46 genres; now therefore,

47 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH 48 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of the 49 centenary of his birth, September 17, 2023, is officially 50 proclaimed as Hank Williams Day in the State of Alabama.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama Legislature 52 encourages all citizens on that date to reflect upon the 53 continuing and lasting impact that Hank Williams has had 54 upon popular music across the nation and around the globe.

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