

# SJR4 INTRODUCED



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



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SJR\_\_\_\_\_ RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 17, 2023, AS HANK WILLIAMS DAY.

WHEREAS, Hiram "Hank" Williams was born to parents Lon and Lillian Williams in Mount Olive, Alabama, on September 17, 1923; and

WHEREAS, at an early age, Williams developed a love of music and was soon taught to play guitar by blues musician Rufus "Tee Tot" Payne, who performed on the streets of Greenville and Montgomery; and

WHEREAS, after winning a Montgomery talent show at age 13 by performing his self-penned song, "WPA Blues," Williams became a popular performer on local radio and in bars, honky tonks, and other venues throughout Alabama; and

WHEREAS, after signing with the Acuff-Rose publishing firm, Williams scored his first national recording hit with "Move It On Over" in 1947 and later followed with hits that included "Your Cheatin' Heart," "Jambalaya," "Kawliga," "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," "My Bucket's Got a Hole in It," "Mind Your Own Business," "Hey Good Lookin'," "Honky Tonk Blues," "Lovesick Blues," "You Win Again," "I Can't Help It," and other lasting classics in the American songbook; and

WHEREAS, Williams was one of the most popular live 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.