

**SJR26 INTRODUCED**



1 SJR26  
2 I3773W6-1  
3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,  
4 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,  
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,  
6 Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Roberts,  
7 Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Williams, Woods  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 29-Jan-26



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4 SJR        MOURNING THE DEATH AND HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN  
5 DAVID WILLIAMS.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sadness that we note the  
8 death of John "Johnny" David Williams of Tuscaloosa,  
9 Alabama, on February 4, 2025, at the age of 68; he touched  
10 lives in all parts of the state over a career that took him  
11 from the high school and collegiate coaching ranks to  
12 athletic director to bowl executive; and

13 WHEREAS, Johnny was born on September 1, 1956, to  
14 Julia Pearl Fisher Williams and Huey Williams; Johnny spent  
15 his entire life involved in sports, a love instilled in him  
16 by his brothers at a young age; he was a star player at Holt  
17 High School, which earned him a 4-year scholarship at the  
18 University of North Alabama (UNA) where he started every  
19 game of his college career; at the conclusion of his playing  
20 career he became a coach at UNA, thus beginning his  
21 profession in coaching at the college level; and

22 WHEREAS, he progressed to Troy University where he  
23 dedicated 20 years, first serving as a graduate assistant  
24 and later as Defensive Coordinator; for his last 10 years at  
25 Troy, he served as Athletic Director, where he received the  
26 2002 General Robert Neyland Athletics Director Award from  
27 the All-American Football Foundation and in 2016 was  
28 inducted into the Troy Sports Hall of Fame; from there,

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29 Johnny was hired as Senior Associate Athletic Director at  
30 The University of Alabama; and

31 WHEREAS, renowned for his sports marketing acumen,  
32 Johnny founded Creative Marketing Management; in 2013,  
33 Johnny's company was hired by ESPN Events to run postseason  
34 Division I bowl games; he created the Raycom College  
35 Football All-Star Classic and, the following year, the  
36 Camellia Bowl, now the Salute to Veterans Bowl, a  
37 traditional college football postseason game played each  
38 year in Montgomery; and

39 WHEREAS, Johnny's charisma and endearing personality  
40 never let him meet a stranger; he had a love of sports on a  
41 deeper level than most; he understood on a personal level  
42 how life changing a sports scholarship could be to a young  
43 person; and

44 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents;  
45 sisters, Betty Williams Webber and Helen Williams Lynch;  
46 brothers, Dewey Jo Williams and W. Jack Williams; he is  
47 survived by his wife of 44 years, Robin Libby Williams;  
48 children, Andrew John Williams (Brittney) and David Robert  
49 Williams; precious grandchildren, Gavin, Avery, Breleigh,  
50 and Gracie; brothers, Freddy Williams (Judi) and Steve  
51 Williams (Elaine); and sisters, Rose Williams Skelton (Billy  
52 Wayne) and Carolyn Williams Bartle; and

53 WHEREAS, traveling with his family was very important  
54 to Johnny; he received much satisfaction from taking the  
55 family on cruises and road trips; more than anything in the  
56 world, Johnny loved his family and most importantly his

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57 grandchildren; they loved him back just as strongly, and he  
58 will be missed beyond what words can convey; now therefore,

59 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
60 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of John "Johnny"  
61 David Williams is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
62 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with  
63 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by  
64 many.