

SJR47 INTRODUCED



1 SJR47

2 MSAPA1W-1

3 By Senators Sessions, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley,
4 Bell, Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,
5 Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher,
6 Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr,
7 Price, Roberts, Shelnut, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams, Woods

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 17-Feb-26



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SJR___ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOHN
J. GUTHRIE, JR.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sadness that we note the
death of John J. Guthrie, Jr. of Cullman, Alabama, on
January 7, 2026, at the age of 71; and

WHEREAS, he was born to John J. Guthrie and Mary
Braswell Guthrie on June 13, 1955; his roots are in the
Cullman County community of Walter; his formative years were
spent enjoying time at his father's cotton gin and his
grandfather's nearby farm; this was where he learned the
importance of friendship and working with people from all
stations of life; and

WHEREAS, he was a graduate of Fairview High School in
Cullman and attended Jacksonville State University, where he
was a member of Delta Chi Fraternity; and

WHEREAS, John began his career in governmental
affairs with inspiration from former Mayor Richard Arrington
of Birmingham; it was during this time he developed the
skills necessary to later represent other Alabama cities and
business interests; he worked as an associate at the
Montgomery governmental affairs firm, Bloom Group; in this
position he represented various cities, including the City
of Cullman, and he also lobbied for the interests and
concerns of businesses at the Alabama State House; he was



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29 highly respected and regarded as a person of integrity and
30 honesty in his work and made many friends during his time in
31 Montgomery; and

32 WHEREAS, he was known for his quick wit, and he was
33 always ready with a laugh and a joke; his many friends
34 enjoyed his company and good nature, gentle smile, and
35 kindness; and

36 WHEREAS, John enjoyed traveling the world with his
37 wife Donna; some highlights of their travels included trips
38 to Egypt, Scotland, Italy and Sicily, France, Ireland, Great
39 Britain, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and various
40 Caribbean cruises; and

41 WHEREAS, he was an avid football fan who followed his
42 beloved alma mater, Jacksonville State University, as well
43 as The University of Alabama Crimson Tide; he also enjoyed a
44 wide variety of music which ranged from ZZ Top to Jason
45 Isbell; and

46 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Donna;
47 children, Lindsay Guthrie Stidham (Graham), Peyton Guthrie,
48 and John J. Guthrie III (Lily); grandchildren, Evelyn Gray
49 Stidham and Sophie Banks Guthrie; siblings, Marsha Guthrie
50 Folsom (Jim) and David Guthrie (Lori); nieces and nephews,
51 Meghan Folsom (Garrick Ambrose), James Folsom (Jamie), Ian
52 Guthrie (Amanda), and Noah Guthrie (Haley); now therefore,

53 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
54 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of John J.
55 Guthrie, Jr. is recorded with deep sadness, and this
56 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with



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57 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
58 many.