

**SJR8 INTRODUCED**



1 SJR8  
2 9J7ILMM-1  
3 By Senator Williams  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 14-Jan-26



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4 SJR\_\_\_\_ NAMING THE BRIDGE ON UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 98 THAT  
5 SPANS BIG CREEK LAKE IN WILMER, ALABAMA, THE LAMAR HARRISON  
6 MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

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8 WHEREAS, it is with the highest accolade that this  
9 body honors the memory of Lamar Allen Harrison by requesting  
10 the Department of Transportation designate the bridge on  
11 U.S. Highway 98 that spans Big Creek Lake in Wilmer, Mobile  
12 County, Alabama, as the Lamar Harrison Memorial Bridge; and

13 WHEREAS, Lamar Harrison was born in Andalusia,  
14 Alabama, in 1935; at 19 years of age, without many resources  
15 but a strong desire to move out into the world and become  
16 successful, he hitchhiked to the Mobile area where, after a  
17 short time, he met his soon-to-be wife, Marceil Brown; the  
18 couple planted roots in Wilmer, where he worked with his  
19 father-in-law at Wilmer Western Auto Store and sold vacuum  
20 cleaners to make ends meet before finding employment with  
21 International Paper Company; in the late 1960s, he became an  
22 entrepreneur and opened a hardware store, gas station,  
23 drive-in restaurant, and skating rink; he continued to  
24 enhance the Wilmer community when, years later, he and  
25 Marceil founded Dirt, Inc.; they began investing in real  
estate and later went on to found Gulf Hauling and  
Construction, Inc.; and

26 WHEREAS, Lamar Harrison was always willing to give  
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29 back to the community; he served in the Alabama National  
30 Guard; as a business owner, he sponsored ball teams and  
31 fundraising activities; he also supported the growth of  
32 Mobile Christian School and served on the Faulkner  
33 University Board of Trustees and as Trustee Emeritus; he  
34 purchased the property to host Gulf Coast Bible Camp, which  
35 he continued to support throughout his lifetime; he was an  
36 ardent supporter of Faulkner University, where his many  
37 generous contributions supported the university's multiple  
38 campuses in the state; Faulkner University conferred an  
39 honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to him for his devoted  
40 support of Christian education; and

41 WHEREAS, Lamar Harrison was called home on June 17,  
42 2021, leaving behind his family and community to grieve his  
43 loss; he was celebrated at Azalea City Church of Christ in  
44 Semmes, where he was a longtime member; his legacy of  
45 service continues to be remembered and honored; now  
46 therefore,

47 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
48 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That to honor Lamar Allen  
49 Harrison, who loved and served his community and was beloved  
50 in return, the Department of Transportation is encouraged to  
51 coordinate with local governing officials to consider  
52 designating the bridge on U.S. Highway 98 that spans Big  
53 Creek Lake in Wilmer, Alabama, the Lamar Harrison Memorial  
54 Bridge and to erect appropriate signs or markers, consistent  
55 with applicable requirements and laws, in recognition of  
56 this designation.