

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
26 estate and later went on to found Gulf Hauling and
27 Construction, Inc.; and

28 WHEREAS, Lamar Harrison was always willing to give



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back to the community; he served in the Alabama National Guard; as a business owner, he sponsored ball teams and fundraising activities; he also supported the growth of Mobile Christian School and served on the Faulkner University Board of Trustees and as Trustee Emeritus; he purchased the property to host Gulf Coast Bible Camp, which he continued to support throughout his lifetime; he was an ardent supporter of Faulkner University, where his many generous contributions supported the university's multiple campuses in the state; Faulkner University conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to him for his devoted support of Christian education; and

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

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