

1 HJR106
2 198287-3
3 By Representative Clarke
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 09-APR-19

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 NAMING THE BRIDGE OVER PERCH CREEK IN MOBILE COUNTY
4 THE RALPH "SONNY" MIDDLETON MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

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6 WHEREAS, Ralph Middleton, known to most as "Sonny,"
7 served the citizens in the Gulf Coast region of Alabama as a
8 businessman and conservationist; he passed away in 2017 but
9 his legacy lives on in the community; and

10 WHEREAS, dedicated to serving his community and
11 working diligently to make a difference, Sonny Middleton
12 started in the family boat repair business; for over six
13 decades he served thousands of boat owners, captains,
14 deckhands, and anglers in Middleton Marine Engine Service, Dog
15 River Marina, A and M Yacht Sales, Dog River Fuels and Supply,
16 and Middleton Marine; and

17 WHEREAS, serving the marine industry with his
18 expertise in yachting and engineering modifications, Middleton
19 was known for his humility and Southern humor; he was a legend
20 in the Gulf Coast fishing community; and

21 WHEREAS, Middleton was recognized with numerous
22 professional and personal awards and accolades; the Dog River
23 Marina was named Marina of the Year in 2000, and received the
24 first State of Alabama designation of Clean Marina; in 2012,
25 Middleton received the Rybovich Lifetime Achievement

1 Conservation Award by the Billfish Foundation; and in 2017,
2 Middleton was inducted as a Gulf Legend by the Blue Marlin
3 Grand Championship Billfish Tournament; and

4 WHEREAS, it is fitting to honor the memory of Sonny
5 Middleton near the place where he impacted the lives of so
6 many people by his commitment to conservation and recreation;
7 now therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
9 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in memory of his dedication
10 and service to the citizens of the Gulf Coast Region of
11 Alabama, we declare that the bridge over Perch Creek in Mobile
12 County, is named the Ralph "Sonny" Middleton Memorial Bridge.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the appropriate
14 officials be requested to place and maintain signs or markers
15 as provided in this resolution.

