

1 SJR11
2 204377-1
3 By Senator Scofield
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 11-FEB-20

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8 NAMING THE NEW BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 205 IN ALBERTVILLE
9 (RABBIT TOWN) IN HONOR OF OLA LEE MIZE.

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11 WHEREAS, Ola Lee Mize of Albertville, Alabama, is
12 one of Alabama's greatest war heroes and it is appropriate and
13 fitting that the new bridge on Highway 205 in Albertville
14 (Rabbit Town) be named in his honor; and

15 WHEREAS, Mize was born in Albertville, Alabama, the
16 son of a sharecropper, he left school after the 9th grade to
17 support his family, after several years of working for low
18 pay, he attempted to enlist in the Army, but was initially
19 rejected for being underweight; after repeated tries, he was
20 eventually accepted by the Army; and

21 WHEREAS, assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division,
22 Mize planned to finish his term of service and return to
23 school, when the Korean War began, he changed his plans and
24 reenlisted in hopes of seeing combat and he volunteered for a
25 front-line unit and ended up a Sergeant in Company K of the
26 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division; on June 10th,
27 1953, his unit was manning Outpost Harry near Surang-ni,

1 Korea, when the post came under heavy enemy attack; Mize
2 organized defensive positions, rescued wounded soldiers, and
3 engaged the enemy until reinforcements arrived about noon the
4 next day; he was subsequently promoted to Master Sergeant and,
5 on September 24th, 1954, awarded the Medal of Honor for his
6 actions at Outpost Harry; and

7 WHEREAS, Mize later joined the special forces where
8 he gained a commission and served three tours of duty in the
9 Vietnam War; in 1965, he was assigned to the Special Forces
10 Training Group, where he was the Advanced Training Committee
11 Chief for Scuba, Halo, and the Skyhook schools; he commanded
12 the Special Forces school at Fort Bragg; Colonel Mize is
13 credited for being the officer responsible for starting the
14 present-day Combat Divers Qualification Course in Key West,
15 Florida; from 1966 to 1967, he was again assigned to the 5th
16 Special Forces Group as the commander of B-36 3rd Mobile
17 Strike Force, he was awarded the Silver Star for Valor Badge
18 with one star, Master Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Special
19 Forces Tab, Legion of Merit with One Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star
20 with Four Oak Leaf Clusters and "V" Device, Purple Heart, Air
21 Medal and several others; and

22 WHEREAS, he met Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy
23 and he retired as a colonel; and

24 WHEREAS, Mize died on March 12, 2014, in Gadsden,
25 Alabama, at age 82; now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby designate the

1 bridge on Highway 205 in Albertville, Alabama, as the Colonel
2 Ola Lee Mize Bridge and request the appropriate officials to
3 place and maintain signs or markers as provided in this
4 resolution.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
6 resolution be provided for presentation as a memento of this
7 honorary designation by the Alabama Legislature.