

1 SJR58  
2 139450-1  
3 By Senator Dial  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 03-APR-12

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8 NAMING THE PORTION OF U.S. HIGHWAY 78 WESTBOUND IN  
9 CLEBURNE COUNTY BETWEEN THE HIGHWAY 9 INTERSECTION TO THE  
10 CALHOUN COUNTY LINE, THE HORACE AND MARY MERRILL HIGHWAY.

11  
12 WHEREAS, with great pride and adulation, the Alabama  
13 Legislature hereby recognizes the lifetime commitment and  
14 contributions of Horace and Mary Merrill to the citizens of  
15 Cleburne County; that portion of U.S. Highway 78 westbound in  
16 Cleburne County between the Highway 9 intersection in Heflin  
17 and the Calhoun County line should be named the Horace and  
18 Mary Merrill Highway to honor this contribution and to  
19 commemorate this service; and

20 WHEREAS, Horace graduated from Cleburne County High  
21 School where he participated in all varsity athletic programs  
22 and later attended Southern Union Junior College on an  
23 athletic scholarship; he was elected and served 12 years as  
24 Cleburne County Circuit Clerk before being elected Probate  
25 Judge; and

26 WHEREAS, in addition to his public service as an  
27 elected official, Horace was a member of and an officer in

1 various civic, professional, and social organizations  
2 including the Lions Club, Jaycees, and Athletic Boosters Club;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, in 1963, Horace married Mary Thompson and  
5 together they reared two children, John Harold and Audrey  
6 Dahlene; Mary was a graduate of Oxford High School,  
7 Jacksonville State College, and the University of  
8 Alabama-Birmingham; and

9 WHEREAS, Mary taught school for 30 years, teaching  
10 at White Plains, Ranburne High School, Cleburne County High  
11 School, and Cleburne County Elementary; she coached girls  
12 athletics, sponsored numerous organizations, and held various  
13 offices in the teachers' organization; she was also active in  
14 many church and association activities, her greatest love was  
15 the Boys and Girls Scouting programs; and

16 WHEREAS, Horace and Mary Merrill have dedicated  
17 their lives to the service of Cleburne County and the citizens  
18 there; it is right and proper that a portion of a highway  
19 through Cleburne County should bear an honor to them; now  
20 therefore,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
22 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That a portion of U.S. Highway 78  
23 westbound in Cleburne County between the Highway 9  
24 intersection in Heflin and the Calhoun County line be named  
25 the Horace and Mary Merrill Highway.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we request the  
27 appropriate transportation officials to place and maintain

1 signs and markers recognizing the Horace and Mary Merrill  
2 Highway.