

1 SJR91
2 119522-1
3 By Senators Smitherman, Barron, Beason, Bedford, Benefield,
4 Bishop, Brooks, Butler, Coleman, Denton, Dixon, Dunn, Erwin,
5 Figures, French, Glover, Holley, Keahey, Little (T), Little
6 (Z), Marsh, Means, Mitchell, Mitchem, Orr, Penn, Pittman,
7 Poole, Preuitt, Ross, Sanders, Sanford, Singleton, Smith, and
8 Waggoner
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 04-MAR-10

8 HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOHN MARK STALLINGS.
9

10 WHEREAS, we look back with deep appreciation for
11 what John Mark "Johnny" Stallings and his family have meant to
12 the people of Alabama and to the members of this body; and

13 WHEREAS, born in Tuscaloosa, June 11, 1962, to
14 legendary Alabama football head coach Gene Stallings and his
15 wife, Ruth Ann, Johnny Stallings was diagnosed with Down
16 Syndrome and a heart problem, conditions which did not hamper
17 him as he came to be considered a hero to millions of people
18 across the United States, including Alabama; and

19 WHEREAS, during Coach Stallings' tenure at The
20 University of Alabama, Johnny was a fixture in The
21 University's Athletic Department, regularly attending
22 practices and games at his father's side; his energy,
23 enthusiasm, and love for the Crimson Tide football program
24 endeared him to millions of Alabamians; Johnny's attachment to
25 the program and The University was so strong that he cried

1 when he heard that his father had elected to retire to the
2 family ranch in Paris, Texas, in 1997; and

3 WHEREAS, Johnny Stallings was a living symbol of
4 triumph by persons with congenital disabilities; his death in
5 2008 at the age of 46 was mourned not only by his parents,
6 Gene and Ruth Ann Stallings; and his siblings, Laurie
7 Vanderpool, Martha Kate Gunn, Anna Lee Young, Jackie Chalk;
8 but also by millions of members of The University of Alabama
9 Family and by thousands of Alabamians and Americans of every
10 political stripe and school affiliation; now therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
12 HOUSES THEREOF, That we hereby honor the memory and celebrate
13 the life of Alabama's cherished and beloved native son, John
14 Mark Stallings.