

1 HJR108  
2 198804-1  
3 By Representative Pringle  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 09-APR-19

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8 URGING THE MOBILE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD TO NAME THE  
9 SOUTHWEST ALABAMA REGIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND IN  
10 HONOR OF H. L. "SONNY" CALLAHAN.

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12 WHEREAS, in honor of H. L. "Sonny" Callahan,  
13 longtime champion of the students and parents of South  
14 Alabama, it would be appropriate to name the Southwest Alabama  
15 Regional School for the Deaf and Blind, the H. L. "Sonny"  
16 Callahan School for the Deaf and Blind; and

17 WHEREAS, Alabama Senator Sonny Callahan was  
18 instrumental in obtaining educational opportunities for  
19 students in South Alabama who had hearing or vision challenges  
20 that could not be addressed in the public school system; and

21 WHEREAS, for over four decades, Senator Callahan has  
22 met with parents of these students, written letters, held  
23 meetings, and sponsored financial pursuits for the funding of  
24 regional education opportunities for the special education of  
25 deaf students; and

26 WHEREAS, with the support, dedication, and  
27 commitment of Senator Callahan, the Mobile County School Board

opened the Southwest Alabama Regional School for the Deaf and Blind in September 1980; and

WHEREAS, Senator Callahan secured the funding and planning at all levels to make this school a reality for the deaf and blind students and their families; the legacy of the school's founding rests primarily with Senator Callahan; and

WHEREAS, his leadership and compassion in championing this notable cause has earned the admiration of students, parents, school officials, community residents, and all of the citizens of Alabama; it would be appropriate to commemorate his lasting influence for the inspiration of future generations; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in honor of Senator Callahan, who worked tirelessly to see this dream accomplished, we respectfully request that the Mobile County School Board rename the Southwest Alabama Regional School for the Deaf and Blind the H. L. "Sonny" Callahan School for the Deaf and Blind.