

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 571

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING OFFICER TRACY WHITAKER FOR
2 HIS COURAGEOUS AND HEROIC EFFORTS ON APRIL 3, 1998.

3 WHEREAS, on April 3, 1998, two young girls fell into the
4 frigid and flood swollen waters of Lake Ferguson; and

5 WHEREAS, upon being advised of the situation, Officer Tracy
6 Whitaker of the Greenville Police Department ran to the water's
7 edge and, upon discovering that a fellow officer was struggling to
8 bring the victim to shore, courageously entered the icy and murky
9 waters of Lake Ferguson; and

10 WHEREAS, disregarding the peril to himself, Officer Tracy
11 Whitaker swam through the cable snarled waters to aid Officer
12 Russell Frazier and Officer Michael Gwathney in pulling the victim
13 to shore; and

14 WHEREAS, in a dramatic scene in this stark struggle for life,
15 a white hand grasped a black hand and the victim was pulled to
16 safety; and

17 WHEREAS, through the prism of joyful tears, there was no
18 color of skin but a rainbow of compassion, courage and heroism;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Officer Tracy Whitaker was recommended to receive
21 the Medal of Merit from his department for his distinguished
22 actions while on duty; and

23 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Mississippi wishes to recognize
24 and thank Officer Tracy Whitaker for his daring, courageous,
25 compassionate and heroic actions at the scene of a near tragedy:

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE

27 SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we
28 do hereby commend Officer Tracy Whitaker for his courageous and
29 heroic rescue on April 3, 1998.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
31 presented to Officer Tracy Whitaker.