

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 572

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING OFFICER MICHAEL GWATHNEY
2 FOR 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 Michael
6 Gwathney of the Greenville Police Department ran to the water's
7 edge and, upon discovering that one victim had slipped beneath the
8 surface, courageously entered the icy and murky waters of Lake
9 Ferguson to search for the victim; and

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

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

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

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

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

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE
26 SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we

27 do hereby commend Officer Michael Gwathney for his courageous and
28 heroic rescue on April 3, 1998.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
30 presented to Officer Michael Gwathney.