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By: Representatives Eads, Ford, Lott, Horne To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING ALL

MISSISSIPPI MILITARY AND NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS SERVING THE UNITED 2 3 STATES BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. 4 WHEREAS, in wake of the tragic September 11, 2001, attack on America and the surrounding events, the Mississippi Army and Air 5 National Guard has found itself busier than ever, not only serving 6 communities throughout the state and nation, but also serving in 7 8 various capacities overseas to protect our national interests; and WHEREAS, following the sequence of events on a day that will 9 forever be etched in the world's memory, President Bush authorized 10 the call-up of fifty thousand reservists to support the War 11 Against Terrorism and the Homeland Defense Mission, which included 12 13 many Mississippi Guard men and women; and WHEREAS, the Mississippi National Guard, upon receiving only 14 a few days' notice, embarked upon both missions to secure and 15 preserve peace and to protect the lives and interests of all 16 Americans, thus exhibiting the high caliber and readiness of our 17 18 state's troops; and WHEREAS, after receiving orders from the President, acting in 19 20 his official capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the United States 21 Military, and from the Governor of the State of Mississippi, acting in his official capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the 22 Mississippi Army and Air National Guard, approximately 100 airmen 23 from the 186th Refueling Wing of Meridian, Mississippi, deployed 24 overseas to conduct air refueling operations as part of "Operation 25 26 Enduring Freedom"; and

27 WHEREAS, approximately 90 volunteers from the Mississippi 28 172nd Airlift Wing, of Jackson, composed of six flight crews and 29 maintenance personnel, conducted air transport operations from 30 Europe in support of "Operation Enduring Freedom"; and

31 WHEREAS, in addition to members of the Mississippi Guard 32 serving abroad, 50 personnel from the 255th Air Control Squadron 33 of Gulfport assisted in the Homeland Defense Effort in Texas; and

34 WHEREAS, in the Homeland Defense Effort, an additional 80 35 members of the Mississippi Guard augmented security forces at 36 seven Mississippi airports and at the Grand Gulf Power Plant 37 located in Port Gibson, Mississippi; and

38 WHEREAS, 123 guard personnel from the 114th Military Police 39 Company, headquartered in Clinton, Mississippi, with detachments 40 in Vicksburg and Canton, were called to active duty and stationed 41 at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, to provide base security and other 42 support, backfilling for active duty soldiers deployed to Central 43 Asia; and

WHEREAS, the 647th Transportation Company of Laurel,
Mississippi, dispatched 157 reservists to Fort Rucker, Alabama,
for deployment to support worldwide operations in support of
"Operation Enduring Freedom"; and

48 WHEREAS, 78 guard personnel from Company C of the 20th 49 Special Forces Group based at Camp McCain were deployed to support 50 worldwide operations in support of "Operation Enduring Freedom"; 51 and

52 WHEREAS, troops based at the Naval Construction Battalion 53 Center in Gulfport were deployed to southern Afghanistan to assist 54 in repairing an air base for use by the United States Marine 55 Corps; and

56 WHEREAS, before the September 11, 2001, attack on America, 57 approximately 400 members of the Mississippi National Guard were 58 already serving in the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Bosnia

H. C. R. No. 50 02/HR40/R1204.1 PAGE 2 (DJ\BD) 59 as Task Force Rifles, working to maintain peace in the Balkan 60 region of Europe; and

61 WHEREAS, the dedication of the men and women of the 62 Mississippi National Guard, in providing valuable assistance to 63 civilian security forces, has helped instill confidence in the 64 general public that they are committed to this nation's safety; 65 and

66 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds it most appropriate to 67 recognize and commend the diligence of the men and women of the 68 Mississippi National Guard for their devotion to their state and 69 nation to serve and ensure peace for all:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend all Mississippi Military, Naval and National Guard Troops serving the United States both domestically and abroad.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be 75 76 furnished to the commanding officers of the 186th Refueling Wing of Meridian, the 172nd Airlift Wing of Jackson, the 255th Air 77 78 Control Squadron of Gulfport, the 114th Military Police of Clinton, the 647th Transportation Company of Laurel, Troop C of 79 80 the 20th Special Forces Group at Camp McCain, the Naval Construction Battalion Center of Gulfport, the Adjutant General of 81 the Mississippi National Guard and to the members of the Capitol 82 83 Press Corps.