MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVES Dedeaux, Barnett
(116th), Compretta, Creel, Fredericks, Guice,
Ishee, Janus, Peranich, Simpson, Brown

To: Rules

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REGULAR SESSION 2003

By: Representatives Dedeaux, Barnett
(116th), Compretta, Creel, Fredericks, Guice,
Ishee, Janus, Peranich, Simpson, Brown

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 70

A RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND COMMENDING
THE LIFE OF 2ND LT. THERREL SHANE CHILDERS OF SAUCIER,
MISSISSIPPI, ONE OF THE FIRST TWO AMERICAN COMBAT CASUALTIES IN
OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

WHEREAS, Marine Corps 2nd Lt. Therrel Shane Childers, age 30,
was among the first two American combat casualties in Operation
Iraqi Freedom when he was shot and killed by hostile fire in
Southern Iraq on Friday, March 21, 2003, while leading his men
into combat; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Childers graduated from Harrison Central High
School in 1990 while living in Saucier, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Childers' father was a Navy Seabee, but he decided
to join the Marines and enlisted following his graduation from
Harrison Central; in 1998 he was accepted into the Marine Enlisted
Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) and attended The Citadel
in Charleston, South Carolina, where he was a French Language
Major, Dean's List Student and excellent role model for the other
cadets, graduating in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Childers was an infantry officer and a platoon
commander in the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine
Division, and was part of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force
stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, which suffered the first
two casualties in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, friends of Shane Childers say that from an early
age, he was the epitome of a model Marine, a conscientious
student, polite and kind, strong in mind and body with a love for
his family and country; and
WHEREAS, Childers' father, Joseph, served in the Navy for 22 years as a Seabee with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62 and 133 while stationed in Gulfport and the 20th Naval Construction Regiment at the Naval Construction Training Center; and his younger brother, Sam, has served over 8 years in the Navy; the Childerses are remembered as a Seabee family who loved the country and spent much of their time outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Mississippians understand the costs of conflict because we have paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it today:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of Marine Corps 2nd Lt. Therrel Shane Childers of Saucier, Mississippi, infantry officer and platoon commander who died Friday, March 21, 2003, of wounds suffered in combat in Iraq, and was among the first two American combat casualties in Iraq, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the Mississippi House of Representatives to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be furnished to the surviving family of Lt. Childers, the Commander-in-Chief of United States Armed Forces, President George W. Bush, and to members of the Capitol Press Corps.