

By: Senator(s) Cuevas, Dawkins, Ross,
Stogner, Lee, Frazier, Posey, Turner, Bryan,
Chamberlin, Gordon, Nunnelee, Minor,
Williamson, Hyde-Smith

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 506

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
2 STEPHEN E. AMBROSE, MILITARY HISTORIAN AND BIOGRAPHER, WHO MADE
3 HIS HOME IN BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE
4 SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE ON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, Stephen E. Ambrose, the military historian and
6 biographer whose books recounted the combat feats of American
7 soldiers and airmen and fueled a national fascination with the
8 generation that fought World War II, and who made his home in Bay
9 St. Louis, Mississippi, passed away on Sunday, October 13, 2002;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Ambrose, born on January 10, 1936, in
12 Whitewater, Wisconsin, was a renowned historian and acclaimed
13 author of more than 30 books. Among his *New York Times*
14 best-sellers are: *Nothing Like It In The World: The Men Who*
15 *Built the Transcontinental Railroad 1863-1869* (2000); *Citizen*
16 *Soldiers: The U.S. Army from the Normandy Beaches to the Bulge to*
17 *the Surrender of Germany, June 7, 1945* (1997); *Band of Brothers:*
18 *E Company, 506th Regiment, 101st Airborne From Normandy to*
19 *Hitler's Eagle's Nest* (1992); *D-Day-June 6, 1944: The Climactic*
20 *Battle of World War II* (1994); and *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether*
21 *Lewis, Thomas Jefferson and the Opening of the American West*
22 (1996); and

23 WHEREAS, he was not only a great author, but also a
24 captivating speaker, with the unique ability to provide insight
25 into the future by employing his profound knowledge of the past.
26 His stories demonstrate how leaders use trust, friendship and
27 shared experiences to work together and thrive during conflict and
28 change; and



29 WHEREAS, Dr. Ambrose was a retired Boyd Professor of History
30 at the University of New Orleans. He was the Director Emeritus of
31 the Eisenhower Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, the founder of
32 the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans to exhibit artifacts
33 entrusted to him by veterans he had interviewed (the museum
34 initially was meant for the university campus but turned into a
35 \$30 Million exhibit in a converted downtown warehouse), was a
36 contributing editor for the Quarterly Journal of Military History,
37 a member of the Board of Directors for American Rivers, and a
38 member of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council Board; and

39 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen Ambrose divided his time between
40 Mississippi and Montana, two distinctly different locales that fed
41 his writing talents. He discovered Bay St. Louis and adopted it
42 as his residence because of his years of university teaching in
43 nearby New Orleans, and there he lived and wrote in a two-story
44 clapboard house by the Gulf; and

45 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Gulf Coast residents have adopted
46 Mr. Ambrose as a Mississippian by choice, not by chance, and all
47 Mississippians claim him on their long list of famous Mississippi
48 authors; and

49 WHEREAS, his talents did not go unnoticed by the film
50 industry. Dr. Ambrose was the historical consultant for Steven
51 Spielberg's movie "*Saving Private Ryan*", and Steven Spielberg and
52 Tom Hanks purchased the film rights to his books *Citizen Soldiers*
53 *and Band of Brothers* to make the 13-hour HBO mini-series "*Band of*
54 *Brothers*"; he has also participated in numerous national
55 television programs, including ones for the History Channel and
56 National Geographic; and

57 WHEREAS, Governor Ronnie Musgrove presented Dr. Ambrose the
58 2002 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts for Lifetime
59 Achievement, and he had many other awards and honors to his name;
60 and



61 WHEREAS, Stephen Ambrose is survived by his wife, Moira,
62 brothers, Harry and Bill, and children, Hugh, Andy, Barry, Grace
63 and Stephenie; and

64 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
65 contributions of this adopted Mississippian who honored soldiers
66 and turned the world into his classroom to popularize history, and
67 allowed us all to learn from him:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
69 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
70 we do hereby commend the life and legacy of Stephen E. Ambrose of
71 Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, renowned military historian and
72 biographer, and express to his family the sympathy of the
73 Legislature.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
75 the surviving family of Dr. Ambrose and be made available to the
76 Capitol Press Corps.

