

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Lee, Cuevas, Hewes,  
Gollott, Smith, Thames, Kirby, White, King,  
Chaney, Dearing, Posey, Bryan, Carmichael,  
Chamberlin, Huggins, Dickerson, Moffatt,  
Browning, Minor, Little, Jordan, Furniss,  
Frazier, Scoper, Canon, Michel, Mettetal,  
Gordon, Nunnelee, Jackson, Williamson,  
Blackmon, Stogner, Carlton, Tollison,  
Robertson, Burton

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

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

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

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

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

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

24 WHEREAS, friends of Shane Childers say that from an early  
25 age, he was the epitome of a model Marine, a conscientious  
26 student, polite and kind, strong in mind and body with a love of  
27 his family and country; and



28           WHEREAS, Childers' father, Joseph, served in the Navy for 22  
29 years as a Seabee with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62  
30 and 133 while stationed in Gulfport and the 20th Naval  
31 Construction Regiment at the Naval Construction Training Center;  
32 and his younger brother, Sam, has served over 8 years in the Navy;  
33 the Childerses are remembered as a Seabee family who loved the  
34 country and spent much of their time outdoors; and

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

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

48           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to  
49 the surviving family of Lt. Childers and Commander-in-Chief of  
50 United States Armed Forces President George W. Bush, and be made  
51 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

