

By: Senator(s) Little

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 503

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ALL MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL
2 GUARD TROOPS SERVING THE UNITED STATES, BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND IN
3 FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

4 WHEREAS, the United States' Military is in the process of
5 engaging in the war against terrorism both at home and overseas,
6 which includes hundreds of Mississippi Guardsmen; and

7 WHEREAS, the Mississippi National Guard, upon receiving only
8 a few days' notice in most cases, has embarked upon both missions
9 to secure and preserve peace and to protect the lives and
10 interests of all Americans, thus exhibiting the high caliber and
11 readiness of our State's troops; and

12 WHEREAS, after receiving orders from President George W.
13 Bush, acting in his official capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the
14 United States Military, and from Governor Ronnie Musgrove, acting
15 in his official capacity as Commander in Chief of the Mississippi
16 National Guard, and from Major General James H. Lipscomb III,
17 acting in his official capacity as Adjutant General of the
18 Mississippi National Guard, has placed thousands of Mississippians
19 on active duty to defend this great country; and

20 WHEREAS, 485 members of Task Force Rifles, headquartered in
21 McComb, Mississippi, and composed of soldiers from across the
22 State of Mississippi, were called to active service to serve
23 abroad, and successfully completed a tour of duty in Bosnia and
24 Herzegovina; and

25 WHEREAS, 83 members of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 20th Special
26 Forces Group, headquartered in Elliot, Mississippi, were called to
27 active service to defeat the Taliban regime in Afghanistan; and

28 WHEREAS, 109 members of the 114th Military Police Company,
29 headquartered in Clinton, Mississippi, were called to active
30 service to serve abroad, successfully completing a tour of duty at
31 Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and subsequently recalled to serve at Fort
32 Hood, Texas; and

33 WHEREAS, 17 members of the 220th Finance Detachment,
34 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called into active
35 service serving in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

36 WHEREAS, 29 members of the 210th Finance Battalion and 19
37 members of the 230th Finance Detachment, both headquartered in
38 Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active service to provide
39 finance support at Fort Hood, Texas; and

40 WHEREAS, 45 members of the 31st Rear Operations Center,
41 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called into active
42 service to serve abroad; and

43 WHEREAS, 146 members of the 113th Military Police Company,
44 headquartered in Brandon, Mississippi, were called to active
45 service to serve abroad, and successfully completed a tour of duty
46 in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan. The unit is the most
47 mobilized unit in the Army National Guard over the past ten years;
48 and

49 WHEREAS, 22 pilots of Company D, 159th Aviation Detachment,
50 headquartered in Tupelo, Mississippi, were called to active
51 service to serve abroad, successfully completing several missions
52 to include the operation which resulted in the deaths of Odai and
53 Qusai Hussein; and

54 WHEREAS, 647 members of the 223rd Engineer Battalion,
55 headquartered in West Point, Mississippi, with six other locations
56 to include Aberdeen, Calhoun City, Bruce, Charleston, Webb, and
57 Clarksdale, were called to active duty to serve abroad. This unit
58 is known for its worldwide operations both military and
59 humanitarian; and

60 WHEREAS, 191 members of the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special
61 Forces Group, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called
62 to active service to serve abroad. This unit successfully
63 conducted approximately 1,000 combat missions in Afghanistan
64 resulting in the death or capture of more than 500 Al Qaeda
65 operatives; and

66 WHEREAS, 17 members of Special Operations Detachment South,
67 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active
68 service to serve abroad; and

69 WHEREAS, 6 members of Company K, 185th Aviation,
70 headquartered at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, with a detachment in
71 Southaven, were called to active service to serve abroad; and

72 WHEREAS, 7 members of Company I, 185th Aviation,
73 headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi, were called to active duty
74 to serve abroad; and

75 WHEREAS, 120 members of the 168th Engineer Group,
76 headquartered in Vicksburg, Mississippi, were called to active
77 service to serve abroad. This unit is the higher headquarters and
78 parent unit for the 223rd Engineer Battalion and the 890th
79 Engineer Battalion; and

80 WHEREAS, 650 members of the 890th Engineer Battalion,
81 headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi, with seven other locations
82 to include Picayune, Pascagoula, Lumberton, Columbia, Wiggins,
83 Purvis, and Richton, were called to active service to serve
84 abroad. This unit is also known for its worldwide operations,
85 both military and humanitarian; and

86 WHEREAS, 71 members of the 1108th Aviation Classification and
87 Repair Depot, headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi, were called
88 to active service to serve abroad; and

89 WHEREAS, 182 members of the 367th Maintenance Company,
90 headquartered in Philadelphia, Mississippi, were called to active
91 service to serve abroad. This unit deployed with and is providing

92 support for the newly formed Stryker Brigade Combat Team based out
93 of Fort Lewis, Washington; and

94 WHEREAS, 125 members of the 114th Area Support Group,
95 headquartered in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, were called to active
96 service to serve abroad; and

97 WHEREAS, 55 members of the 298th Corps Support Battalion,
98 headquartered in Philadelphia, Mississippi, were called to active
99 service to serve abroad; and

100 WHEREAS, 24 members of the 1st Cavalry Division's Rear
101 Operations Center, headquartered in Tupelo, Mississippi, were
102 called to active service to serve abroad. This unit is one of
103 only six Army National Guard units nationwide which is directly
104 affiliated with an active component division; and

105 WHEREAS, 57 members of the 112th Military Police Battalion,
106 headquartered in Canton, Mississippi, were called to active
107 service to serve abroad. This unit was previously recognized for
108 its distinguished service in Operation Desert Storm; and

109 WHEREAS, 24 members of the 114th Army Liaison Team,
110 headquartered in Greenville, Mississippi, were called to active
111 service to serve abroad; and

112 WHEREAS, 143 members of Company G, 185th Aviation,
113 headquartered in Meridian, Mississippi, were called to active duty
114 to serve abroad. These pilots fly the Chinook aircraft, the
115 Army's premier cargo aircraft; and

116 WHEREAS, 84 members of the 185th Aviation Group,
117 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active
118 service to serve abroad. This unit holds the distinction of
119 commanding the largest National Guard aviation task force ever
120 deployed overseas; and

121 WHEREAS, 62 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard's,
122 255th Air Control Squadron, headquartered in Gulfport,
123 Mississippi, were called to active service to serve abroad; and

124 WHEREAS, 500 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard,
125 172nd Airlift Wing, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were
126 called to active service to serve abroad; and

127 WHEREAS, 500 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard,
128 186th Air Refueling Wing, headquartered in Meridian, Mississippi,
129 were called to active service to serve abroad; and

130 WHEREAS, 75 soldiers made up of various units of the
131 Mississippi National Guard, were called to active duty in the
132 State of Mississippi with a security mission at seven airports
133 statewide; and

134 WHEREAS, 45 soldiers from units within the 1st Battalion,
135 155th Infantry, headquartered in McComb, Mississippi, were called
136 to active duty in the State of Mississippi with a security mission
137 at five Mississippi ports as well as the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power
138 Facility; and

139 WHEREAS, 177 soldiers, known as Task Force Falcon, made up of
140 various units of the Mississippi National Guard, have been
141 mobilized and are serving on active duty in the State of
142 Mississippi with a security mission at Columbus Air Force Base,
143 Keesler Air Force Base, and the Mississippi Air National Guard
144 Bases at Jackson and Meridian; and

145 WHEREAS, since September 11, 2001, more than 5,000 soldiers
146 and airmen of the Mississippi National Guard have been called to
147 active service in defense of our nation's freedom. This
148 constitutes the largest overseas deployment of the Mississippi
149 National Guard since the Korean War; and

150 WHEREAS, the dedication of the men and women of the
151 Mississippi National Guard in providing valuable assistance to the
152 United States Military, has helped instill confidence in the
153 general public that they are committed to this nation's security;
154 and

155 WHEREAS, Major General James H. Lipscomb III, has guided and
156 commanded the units of the Mississippi National Guard in military

157 mobilizations and state active duties to include hurricanes,
158 tropical storms, tornados, security at seven airports, five river
159 and sea ports, and the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Facility in the
160 State of Mississippi. His leadership and dedication are known
161 throughout the military of the United States; and

162 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature finds it most
163 appropriate to recognize and commend the diligence of these
164 outstanding Mississippians for the devotion to their state and
165 nation to secure and insure peace for all:

166 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
167 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
168 we do hereby commend and declare our great pride in all
169 Mississippi National Guard personnel serving the United States
170 both domestically and abroad, and we pray for the quick and
171 successful conclusion of their important mission and for their
172 safe return home.

173 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
174 furnished to the commanding officers of each mentioned
175 organization, the Adjutant General of the Mississippi National
176 Guard and be made available to the members of the Capitol Press
177 Corps.