

By: Senator(s) Butler, Carmichael,
Chamberlin, Chaney, Clarke, Dearing, Frazier,
Gordon, Harvey, Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th),
Jordan, King, Lee (35th), Morgan, Nunnelee,
Pickering, Thames

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 557

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND MILITARY
2 SERVICE OF U.S. ARMY SERGEANT, SHANTA BRIDGES OF TYLERTOWN,
3 MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT WHILE ON
4 ACTIVE DUTY.

5 WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Shanta Bridges, 26 years
6 of age, a resident of Honolulu, Hawaii, and a former resident of
7 Tylertown, Mississippi, died February 13, 2004, in an automobile
8 accident while on active duty; and

9 WHEREAS, Sergeant Bridges was born on July 1, 1977, to Cinda
10 Lane and James "Bay" Anderson in Walthall County, Mississippi; and

11 WHEREAS, he joined Tylertown First Baptist Church as a child.
12 He attended Tylertown High School, where he was a very active
13 student. He participated in several clubs and organizations and
14 was a valuable member of the football team. He graduated from
15 Tylertown High School in 1995; and

16 WHEREAS, after high school, Sergeant Bridges attended Jackson
17 State University and maintained various jobs in the community. In
18 April 1998, he joined the United States Army. During basic
19 training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he married his high school
20 sweetheart, Tonya LaKesha Carr on July 17, 1998; and

21 WHEREAS, Sergeant Bridges was stationed in Darmstadt,
22 Germany, for three years. During this time he was deployed to
23 serve at Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo. He and his family then
24 traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he was stationed at Schofield
25 Barracks. Sergeant Bridges was an outstanding soldier. He
26 received numerous awards and honors, such as the North Atlantic
27 Treaty Organization Medal for his service in Kosovo, the Airborne
28 Meritorious Certificate of Achievement for parachuting and Soldier

29 of the Month to name a few. He was dedicated to becoming the best
30 noncommissioned officer possible. He attended many training
31 classes and schools where he became certified in a variety of
32 specialties. He served five years, six months and 27 days in the
33 United States Army before his tragic automobile accident; and

34 WHEREAS, Sergeant Bridges was preceded in death by his
35 father, James "Bay" Anderson; one aunt; five uncles; and a very
36 special niece, Kendra Felicia Bridges. He is survived by his
37 wife, Tonya LeKesha Bridges of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; his two
38 sons, ShantezAlcus Niem Bridges and Malik Devonte Bridges; his
39 mother, Cinda Lane of McComb, Mississippi; his mother-in-law,
40 Jennye R. Carr of Tylertown, Mississippi; his grandmother, Annie
41 Butler of Tylertown, Mississippi; seven sisters and four
42 brothers-in-law; and a host of other cousins and friends; and

43 WHEREAS, Sergeant Bridges was buried with full military
44 honors, and it is with sadness that we note the passing of this
45 Mississippian whose military service has brought honor to his
46 family, his community and to the State of Mississippi:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
48 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
49 we do hereby commend the life and military service of U.S. Army
50 Sergeant, Shanta Bridges of Tylertown, Mississippi, who was killed
51 in an automobile accident while on active duty in Honolulu,
52 Hawaii, and express to his surviving family the sympathy of the
53 Legislature.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
55 the surviving wife and mother of Sergeant Bridges and be made
56 available to the Capitol Press Corps.