

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 600

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 1ST BATTALION, 204TH
2 AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY, SERVING THE UNITED STATES IN OUR NATION'S
3 CAPITOL.

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 interest
10 of all Americans, thus exhibiting the high caliber and readiness
11 of our state's troops; and

12 WHEREAS, 170 members of the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense
13 Artillery, headquartered in Newton, Mississippi, with units in
14 Morton, Bay Springs, Forest and Decatur, were called to active
15 duty on May 1, 2003, for service in our Nation's Capitol; and

16 WHEREAS, upon mobilization, these soldiers trained admirably
17 at Ft. Bliss, Texas, exceeding all training standards on
18 active-component precision marksmanship ranges; and

19 WHEREAS, these soldiers were subsequently deployed to provide
20 air defense for our National Capitol Region; and

21 WHEREAS, the Battalion was the first National Guard Battalion
22 selected for such a critical mission; and

23 WHEREAS, they have been recognized repeatedly for excellence
24 during their deployment; and

25 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery, was
26 the first Army National Guard unit in the nation to receive the

27 state-of-the-art Avenger Weapons System because of their history
28 of superior unit readiness and mission accomplishment; and

29 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery, was
30 the first Army National Guard unit in the nation to receive the
31 state-of-the-art Sentinel Radar System to enhance the Avenger
32 Weapons System; and

33 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery,
34 consistently surpasses all training requirements due to the
35 leadership abilities of its command; and

36 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery,
37 consistently surpasses all training requirements due to the
38 professionalism and dedication of its soldiers; and

39 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery,
40 remains one of the most critical combat multipliers in the
41 Mississippi Army National Guard; and

42 WHEREAS, the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery, will
43 continue its heritage as one of the best trained fighting forces
44 in the Mississippi Army National Guard and will proudly protect
45 life and property in the State of Mississippi and defend our
46 nation's freedoms; and

47 WHEREAS, the dedication of these soldiers of the 1st
48 Battalion, 204th Air Defense Artillery, in providing valuable
49 assistance to the United States Military, has helped instill
50 confidence in the general public that they are committed to this
51 nation's security; and

52 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature finds it most
53 appropriate to recognize and commend the diligence of these
54 outstanding Mississippians for the devotion to their state and
55 nation to secure and insure peace for all:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
57 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
58 we do hereby commend all personnel in the 1st Battalion, 204th Air
59 Defense Artillery, serving the United States so proudly.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
61 furnished to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, 204th
62 Air Defense Artillery, the Adjutant General of the Mississippi
63 National Guard and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.