

By: Senator(s) Albritton, To: Rules
Harvey, Brown, Browning,
Butler, Carmichael, Chaney,
Clarke, Davis, Dearing,
Flowers, Frazier, Gollott,
Gordon, Harden, Hewes,
Jackson (15th), Jackson
(11th), Jordan, King,
Kirby, Little, Mettetal,
Michel, Moffatt, Morgan,
Pickering, Posey, Thomas,
Walley, Walls, White,
Wilemon

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 516

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT SABURANT "SABE" PARKER OF
3 FOXWORTH, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS A COMBAT CASUALTY IN IRAQ ON
4 MONDAY, MAY 23, 2005, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE
5 LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, Sergeant Saburant "Sabe" Parker, 43, of Foxworth,
7 Mississippi, was killed on Monday, May 23, 2005, when a bomb
8 exploded near his Humvee in Haswa, 30 miles south of Baghdad,
9 Iraq, one of four members of the Mississippi-based 155th Brigade
10 Combat Team; and

11 WHEREAS, carried by a military honor guard, he came home to
12 his community and family, and was remembered at a special memorial
13 service at Hurricane Creek Baptist Church near Columbia,
14 Mississippi, on Saturday, May 28, 2005, was buried on Tuesday, May
15 31, 2005, in Andrews, North Carolina, with full military honors;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the 155th Infantry Brigade Combat Team includes
18 3,500 soldiers from Mississippi and others from Vermont and
19 Arkansas. The 155th, which is attached to the II Marine
20 Expeditionary Force, operates in the Karbala, Najaf and Babil
21 provinces of Iraq. The soldiers trained at Camp Shelby before
22 being deployed to Iraq in January. The deaths of these four brave
23 guardsmen brings the total in the 155th Brigade to at least 10 in
24 2005. Since military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq began, 32
25 soldiers with ties to Mississippi have died. The Mississippi
26 National Guard has sustained the fourth-highest number of
27 casualties of any state; and

28 WHEREAS, Sergeant Parker was a 16-year veteran with the
29 National Guard and had previously served in Bosnia. He worked at
30 a lumber company in Angie, Louisiana. He was a family man who
31 "loved his kids and loved what he did for a living." He was a
32 quiet, intelligent man, who enjoyed fishing and hunting; and often
33 took his daughters with him on outings. He loved his country and
34 realized that we are all very blessed with what we have here in
35 America and Mississippi; and

36 WHEREAS, during his memorial service, Sergeant Parker was
37 awarded the Bronze Star, the Mississippi Medal of Valor and the
38 Purple Heart posthumously by Major General Harold Cross, Adjutant
39 General of Mississippi; and

40 WHEREAS, his family received an outpouring of grief and
41 support from across the state, demonstrating the community's
42 acknowledgment of the sacrifice made by the Mississippi National
43 Guard; and

44 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 20 years, Kitza
45 Parker; two daughters, Merissa and Sheliah Parker; a stepson,
46 Ramsey Cumpton; mother-in-law, Dimple Compton; mother, Ora Lee
47 Hayes; other relatives who live in North Carolina; and numerous
48 close friends; and

49 WHEREAS, to a country, a fallen soldier means a national
50 loss; to a community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a
51 parent, a fallen soldier means a son who will not be coming home.
52 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have
53 paid them in the past. It is with great pride and humility that
54 we recognize the heroic action of this great American and
55 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it
56 today:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
58 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
59 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
60 Sergeant Saburant "Sabe" Parker of Foxworth, Mississippi, who was

61 a combat casualty in Iraq on Monday, May 23, 2005, and extend the
62 thoughts and prayers of the Legislature to his family and our
63 sorrow on his passing.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
65 the surviving family of Sergeant Parker and be made available to
66 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.