

By: Representatives Clarke, To: Rules  
Bailey, Barnett, Calhoun, Chism,  
Dedeaux, Dickson, Evans,  
Fredericks, Gibbs, Holland,  
Malone, Martinson, Mayhall,  
Morris, Myers, Nicholson, Norquist, Robinson (63rd), Smith (27th),  
Smith (39th), Smith (59th), Staples, Stevens, Thomas, Walley, Young

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DILIGENCE AND TACTICAL PLANNING  
2 OF SERGEANT MIKE STEPHENS OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVE  
3 FOR ASSISTING IN THE EVACUATION OF HOUSTON'S FLEEING EVACUEES FROM  
4 THE IMPENDING DANGERS OF HURRICANE RITA.

5 WHEREAS, as Hurricane Rita raged on a path of destruction,  
6 destination the southern shores of Texas, Sgt. Mike Stephens of  
7 the United States Air Force Reserve, who makes his home in Katy,  
8 Texas, had a plan to assist as many people as possible to escape  
9 the impending devastation; and

10 WHEREAS, this evacuation plan consisted of having previously  
11 mapped out an escape route that would not incur the inconvenience  
12 and madness of total gridlock on the state's major interstate and  
13 freeway system; and

14 WHEREAS, a full-time employee of United Parcel Service (UPS),  
15 Sgt. Stephens had tactically planned and prepared for the worst,  
16 mapping out the evacuation, prepared lodging for ten persons with  
17 a military tent, sleeping bags, battery powered radios, flash  
18 lights, meal and food rations to last approximately two weeks and  
19 a propane grill for the preparing of the meals; and

20 WHEREAS, leading a caravan of four vehicles and ten  
21 individuals, infants and seniors included, Sgt. Stephens' group  
22 was able to drive an estimated 65 miles per hour on the rural and  
23 less traveled roads of Texas to get his followers out of harms  
24 way; and

25 WHEREAS, the course of action taken by Sgt. Stephens allowed  
26 those in his care to make a safe and timely exit as opposed to  
27 others who were overcome by the congested thoroughfares within the  
28 state's borders in excess of twelve hours; and

29           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
30 recognize the diligent efforts of individuals like Sgt. Stephens,  
31 who took the initiative to help his fellowman when dangers were  
32 ever pressing upon them:

33           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
34 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
35 commend the diligent and tactical planning of Sgt. Mike Stephens  
36 of the United States Air Force Reserve for assisting in the  
37 evacuation of Houston's fleeing evacuees from the impending  
38 dangers of Hurricane Rita.

39           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
40 furnished to Sgt. Stephens and to the members of the Capitol Press  
41 Corps.