

By: Senator(s) Robertson, Little To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 506

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MILITARY LAW
2 ENFORCEMENT AND STATE AGENCY PERSONNEL OF MISSISSIPPI, THE FEDERAL
3 GOVERNMENT AND OTHER STATES FOR PERFORMING EXEMPLARY EMERGENCY
4 SERVICE ON THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST DURING THE HURRICANE KATRINA
5 CRISIS.

6 WHEREAS, when Hurricane Katrina made landfall on August 29,
7 2005, Florida State Troopers, Florida Search and Rescue law
8 enforcement units, Florida Department of Transportation Advance
9 Reconnaissance Team personnel and Florida Human Services personnel
10 were among the first on the scene on the Mississippi Gulf Coast;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to the Mississippi National Guard, the
13 United States Coast Guard, United States Navy Seabees, the
14 Mississippi Highway Patrol, Mississippi local law enforcement
15 units and Mississippi fire department emergency response units,
16 various military, law enforcement and fire/emergency response
17 units, conservation, transportation and human service personnel
18 from the following sister states supported hurricane relief
19 efforts on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and other parts of the state
20 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina: Alabama, Arkansas,
21 Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland
22 (donated vehicles), Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina,
23 Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and
24 Virginia; and

25 WHEREAS, these military and law enforcement personnel
26 assisted local civil authorities in preserving public and private
27 property and enhancing the safety of citizens from Hurricane
28 Katrina's anticipated destruction; and

29 WHEREAS, since the hurricane's landfall on August 29, 2005,
30 the Mississippi National Guard has delivered over 37 million
31 pounds of ice, 4.5 million gallons of water and almost 4 million
32 "meals ready to go" to Mississippi residents. In addition,
33 National Guard medical personnel have provided over 18,000
34 vaccinations to Gulf Coast residents. Mississippi Air National
35 Guard has flown over 1,984 missions, delivering 2,574,425 pounds
36 of cargo. Engineers have diligently cleared over 3,900 miles of
37 roadways. National Guard Military Police have assisted local law
38 enforcement by providing patrols throughout the affected area.
39 Task Force Magnolia currently has 3,265 Mississippi soldiers and
40 airmen on duty in various locations throughout the state,
41 providing engineering services, medical assistance, aviation
42 support, security missions and various other support activities;
43 and

44 WHEREAS, the first role and duty of the National Guard under
45 the federal and state Constitutions is that of a state
46 organization to give the Governor a statewide peace officer force
47 capable of assisting the Chief Executive of our state and other
48 states in seeing that the laws are faithfully executed, preserving
49 order and domestic tranquility and protecting lives and property
50 whenever a crisis is prevalent; and

51 WHEREAS, soldiers, airmen, law enforcement, conservation,
52 transportation and human service personnel from Mississippi and
53 other states continue to demonstrate their commitment and
54 fortitude by standing tall in the face of adversity. They have
55 faced the most destructive hurricane in our history and responded
56 by putting their personal lives on hold while providing comfort
57 and assistance to Mississippians during their time of need:

58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
59 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
60 we do hereby commend the military, law enforcement, fire
61 department and state agency personnel of the National Guard of our

62 state, the federal government and of other states for their
63 exemplary services, conduct and performance rendered prior to and
64 subsequent to Hurricane Katrina's unprecedented destruction on and
65 near the Mississippi Gulf Coast in August and September, 2005, and
66 we thank our servicemen, the units from other states, the federal
67 government and the generosity of the American people for their
68 assistance.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to
70 Governor Haley Barbour, Commander-in-Chief of the Mississippi
71 National Guard; Major General Harold Cross, Adjutant General of
72 Mississippi; the Governor and commanding officer of each unit of
73 the National Guard, state and local law enforcement/fire/
74 emergency response which furnished officers and personnel to
75 assist the tragedy-stricken citizens of the southeastern area of
76 Mississippi from August 29 through October, 2005; the Commandant
77 of the United States Coast Guard; the commanding officer of the
78 United States Navy Seabee Base in Gulfport, Mississippi; and to
79 members of Mississippi's congressional delegation; and be made
80 available to members of the Capitol Press Corps.