

By: Senator(s) Carmichael,      To: Rules  
Mettetal, King, Kirby,  
Browning, Butler, Chaney,  
Clarke, Cuevas, Dawkins,  
Dearing, Flowers, Frazier,  
Gollott, Harden, Hewes,  
Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th),  
Jackson (15th), Jackson  
(32nd), Jordan, Lee (35th),  
Lee (47th), Little, Moffatt,  
Morgan, Posey, Robertson,  
Ross, Thames, Thomas, White,  
Wilemon

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 508

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HEROIC ACTION OF  
2 MISSISSIPPI STATE GUARD CORPORAL VINCENT B. KENNEDY DURING  
3 HURRICANE KATRINA, AND EXPRESSING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF THE  
4 LEGISLATURE FOR HIS RECEIPT OF THE MISSISSIPPI MAGNOLIA CROSS  
5 MEDAL.

6           WHEREAS, Mississippi State Guard Corporal Vincent B. Kennedy  
7 has been recommended for the Mississippi Magnolia Cross Medal by  
8 his commanding officer, Brigadier General Thomas Logue; and

9           WHEREAS, Corporal Kennedy distinguished himself on August 29,  
10 2005, by saving the life of Mr. Thomas Murphy, of Pascagoula,  
11 Mississippi, while placing his own life in mortal peril; and

12           WHEREAS, while assigned to the 402nd Military Police  
13 Battalion, Mississippi State Guard and on a military police detail  
14 providing security for the Moss Point High School shelter during  
15 Hurricane Katrina, Corporal Kennedy was notified that Mr. Murphy  
16 had succumbed to an asthma attack and did not have his medications  
17 at the shelter. After searching the shelter for any other source  
18 of medication for Mr. Murphy, Corporal Kennedy took it upon  
19 himself to evacuate Mr. Murphy from the shelter in hopes of  
20 finding a route to the local medical center to obtain medical  
21 attention. These actions occurred during the onset of hurricane  
22 force winds and rising waters. Corporal Kennedy tried several  
23 routes out of Moss Point until his vehicle succumbed to rising  
24 waters. With his vehicle stalled in continuously rising water,  
25 Corporal Kennedy and a Department of Human Services employee, who  
26 had accompanied him on this mission, got Mr. Murphy out of the  
27 vehicle and into a boat that was brought along side of his vehicle

28 by a civilian. The waters at this point were at Corporal  
29 Kennedy's chest and rising, and despite the fact that Corporal  
30 Kennedy has a lower leg amputation and wears a prosthetic device,  
31 he successfully removed Mr. Murphy from the vehicle and to safety.  
32 After reaching dry ground, Corporal Kennedy then checked at  
33 several residences and eventually found an asthma inhaler. After  
34 administering the inhaler to Mr. Murphy, the party returned by  
35 another route to the shelter where Mr. Murphy was able to wait out  
36 the storm prior to Medivac due to the administration of the  
37 inhaler procured during the mission; and

38 WHEREAS, Corporal Kennedy continued to be an active part of  
39 his units' ongoing missions despite grievous personal injury to  
40 his prosthetic leg sustained during his efforts to save Mr.  
41 Murphy. His selfless actions and disregard for personal safety  
42 were directly related to the preservation of Mr. Murphy's life;  
43 and

44 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and humility that we  
45 recognize the heroic action of this great American and  
46 Mississippian, who is the guardian of civilization as we know it  
47 today:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
49 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
50 we do hereby commend the heroic action of Mississippi State Guard  
51 Corporal Vincent B. Kennedy during the landfall of Hurricane  
52 Katrina, and express the congratulations of the Legislature upon  
53 his receipt of the Mississippi Magnolia Cross Medal.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
55 Corporal Vincent B. Kennedy and his family, be forwarded to  
56 Brigadier General Thomas O. Logue, and be made available to the  
57 Capitol Press Corps.