

By: Senator(s) Browning

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND COMMENDING
2 THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS CORPORAL CLIFTON BLAKE
3 MOUNCE OF ECRU, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN IRAQ ON THURSDAY,
4 JULY 14, 2005.

5 WHEREAS, Marine Corporal Clifton Blake Mounce, 22 (he would
6 have been 23 on July 28), of Ecrú, Mississippi, was killed on
7 Thursday, July 14, 2005, when the vehicle in which he and another
8 Marine assigned to Regimental Combat Team 2, 2nd Marine Division,
9 was struck by an improvised explosive device near Trebil, Iraq;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, carried by a military honor guard, he came home to
12 his community and family, and was buried in the Ecrú City Cemetery
13 with full military honors and was awarded the Navy Cross and the
14 Mississippi Medal of Valor by the Marine Major in charge of
15 ceremonies; and

16 WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, 37
17 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have been killed.
18 Corporal Mounce is the fourth northeast Mississippi soldier to die
19 in Iraq and the second in less than a month; and

20 WHEREAS, in the Marines, he was known as Corporal Mounce, but
21 at home, the North Pontotoc High School graduate was brother,
22 husband, friend and son. He had a great sense of humor, and loved
23 to fish, hunt and ride dirt bikes; and

24 WHEREAS, Corporal Mounce's parents, Pat and Johnny, said
25 their son wanted to join the Marines after 9-11. He loved being a
26 Marine and loved his fellow Marines. When he called home and
27 asked for prayer, he didn't just ask for it for himself, but for
28 everyone serving; and

29 WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Blake is survived by
30 Tiffany Mounce, his wife of three years, and he was the oldest of
31 four siblings: Shea, 18, West, 15 and Nate, 12. Other survivors
32 include paternal grandparents, Flake and Dorothy Mounce of Ecrú;
33 maternal grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Waymon Horton and the late
34 Gladys Horton of Ecrú; and mother- and father-in-law Keith and
35 Rhonda Owen of Pontotoc; and

36 WHEREAS, his family received an outpouring of grief and
37 support from across the state, demonstrating the community's
38 acknowledgment of the sacrifice made by this Mississippian; and

39 WHEREAS, to a country, a fallen soldier means a national
40 loss; to a community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a
41 parent, a fallen soldier means a son who won't be coming home.
42 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have
43 paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility
44 that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and
45 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it
46 today:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
48 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby remember the gallant service and
49 commend the life of United States Marine Corporal Clifton Blake
50 Mounce of Ecrú, Mississippi, who was killed in Iraq on Thursday,
51 July 14, 2005, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the Senate
52 to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
54 the family of Corporal Mounce and be made available to the Capitol
55 Press Corps.