

By: Representative Janus

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 124

1 A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE PEOPLE OF
2 AUSTRALIA FOR THEIR GENUINE CONCERN FOR AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
3 PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HURRICANE KATRINA.

4 WHEREAS, immediately following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the
5 Australian Prime Minister, the Honorable John Howard PM, the
6 Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Honorable Alexander Downer MP,
7 and the Australian Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable
8 Dennis J. Richardson, took massive steps to secure much needed
9 relief supplies for the people of the great State of Mississippi;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, three days after Katrina's landfall, the Australian
12 Government offered to make available to the United States two
13 specialist emergency managers to assist with the community
14 recovery phase of the response to the natural disaster which
15 engulfed the Gulf Coast; and

16 WHEREAS, on day four, 96 hours out from perhaps the most
17 devastating storm of the century, the Australian Government again
18 proved their loyalty and concern for the United States, announcing
19 a donation of \$10 million, which was combined with funds donated
20 by private Australian citizens, to assist the victims of Hurricane
21 Katrina; and

22 WHEREAS, the donations aided the American Red Cross and the
23 Salvation Army, which were at the forefront of assisting those
24 displaced and left homeless in a disaster zone spanning 145,000
25 square kilometers; and

26 WHEREAS, often at the helm of international aid efforts to
27 help less fortunate nations, the United States was now in a

28 vulnerable situation, needing aid, and it was a fitting and proper
29 humanitarian gesture of the Australian Government to contribute to
30 the daunting task of aiding thousands of American citizens whose
31 lives had been thrown into disarray; and

32 WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mississippi House of
33 Representatives to officially thank Australia's Prime Minister,
34 the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Australian
35 Ambassador to the United States and its people for their genuine
36 heartfelt concern:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
38 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
39 extend our sincerest thanks and respect to the Prime Minister, the
40 Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Australian Ambassador
41 to the United States and the Australian people, whose actions and
42 contributions following the destruction wrought by Hurricane
43 Katrina served to provide much needed help to the State of
44 Mississippi, thereby immediately improving the lives of countless
45 Mississippians during their time of great need.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
47 furnished to the Australian Prime Minister, the Honorable John
48 Howard PM, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Honorable
49 Alexander Downer MP, and the Australian Ambassador to the United
50 States, the Honorable Dennis J. Richardson, and to the members of
51 the Capitol Press Corps.