

By: Senator(s) Mettetal, Carmichael,
Moffatt, King, Albritton, Browning, Butler,
Chaney, Clarke, Davis, Dawkins, Frazier,
Gollott, Hewes, Jackson (11th), Jackson
(15th), Jordan, Kirby, Lee (35th), Little,
Michel, Posey, Robertson, Simmons, Thames,
Thomas, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 525

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS CORPORAL MICHAEL
3 BRANDON PRESLEY OF BATESVILLE, MISSISSIPPI, WHO DIED ON DECEMBER
4 14, 2005, DUE TO INJURIES SUSTAINED IN ACTION IN IRAQ, AND
5 EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, United States Marine Corporal Michael Brandon
7 Presley, 21, of Batesville, Mississippi, died on Wednesday,
8 December 14, 2005, at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in
9 Germany from wounds sustained in a suicide-bomb blast while
10 conducting combat operations in Fallujah, Iraq; and

11 WHEREAS, Corporal Presley was assigned to the 23rd Marines,
12 3rd Battalion, Kilo Company, from Camp Lejeune, North Carolina,
13 attached to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine
14 Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force; and

15 WHEREAS, carried by a Marine Honor Guard, he returned to his
16 former home and his community, and was buried on Thursday,
17 December 22, 2005, at Magnolia Cemetery in Batesville with full
18 military honors; during the funeral he was awarded the Navy Cross;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Corporal Presley was born on February 17, 1984, in
21 Oxford, Mississippi, graduated from North Delta High School in
22 2002, where he played as an offensive and defensive lineman for
23 the Green Wave and was part of the Green Wave 3A Championship Team
24 for the Mississippi Private School Association in 2000; known as
25 "Brandon" to his friends, he kept in touch with his teachers from
26 the North Delta School even while he was stationed overseas, and
27 let them know that he appreciated their work. He had a unique

28 connection with children and enjoyed reaching out to the youth at
29 his school; and

30 WHEREAS, while in the Marine Corps, Corporal Presley's awards
31 included the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service Medal, the
32 Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal and the Sea
33 Service Deployment Ribbon; and

34 WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, at
35 least 41 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have died in
36 action; and

37 WHEREAS, he is survived by his mother, Pam Hope Presley
38 Cousar of New Albany, Mississippi; brother, Frasyer Colin Hawkins
39 of New Albany, Mississippi; stepfather, Joe W. Cousar of New
40 Albany; grandmother Mary Presley of Pope, Mississippi; and
41 grandparents, Mitchell and Mary Frances Harmon Woods of Sardis,
42 Mississippi; and many close friends; and

43 WHEREAS, Brandon was a friend who is counted among America's
44 heroes, committed to our nation's safety and security. To a
45 country, a fallen soldier means a national loss; to a community, a
46 fallen soldier means a true hero; to a parent, a fallen soldier
47 means a son who won't be coming home. Mississippians understand
48 the costs of conflict, because we have paid them in the past, and
49 it is with pride and humility that we recognize the heroic action
50 of this great American and Mississippian, who was the guardian of
51 civilization as we know it today:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
53 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
54 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
55 United States Marine Corporal Michael Brandon Presley of
56 Batesville, Mississippi, who died on December 14, 2005, due to
57 injuries sustained in combat operations in Iraq on December 12,
58 2005, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the Legislature to
59 his family and our sorrow on his passing.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
61 the surviving family of Corporal Presley and be made available to
62 members of the Capitol Press Corps.