

By: Senator(s) Gordon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 586

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DEDICATED PROFESSIONAL
2 SERVICE OF CAPTAIN TONY RAY THORNTON, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING FOR THE
3 MISSISSIPPI HIGHWAY PATROL AND S.W.A.T. TEAM, UPON THE OCCASION OF
4 HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, on February 28, 2006, Captain Tony Ray Thornton,
6 Director of Training for the Mississippi Highway Patrol and
7 S.W.A.T. Team, will retire after 24 years of dedicated
8 professional service in law enforcement; and

9 WHEREAS, between 1995 and 2006, Captain Thornton has assisted
10 in training over 250 troopers for the Mississippi Highway Patrol;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, since assuming the responsibility for the S.W.A.T.
13 Team in 1995, Captain Thornton has reported no loss of life or
14 serious injury to officers on the team; and

15 WHEREAS, the highlights of Captain Thornton's career in law
16 enforcement for the State of Mississippi are as follows:

17 • Graduated from the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers
18 Training Academy on December 17, 1981, Class #40 (graduated 37
19 cadets);

20 • 1st assignment: District 4, Troop F, Badge F-52, H.H.
21 Waycaster, Supervisor;

22 • December 1986, transferred to Mississippi Bureau of
23 Narcotics under Director Donald Butler;

24 • October 1990, reassigned to MHP to District 4 by Colonel
25 Huggins and Commissioner Louisa Dixon. Promoted to the rank of
26 Trooper First Class;

27 • January 1992, promoted to the rank of Corporal;

28 • March 1994, promoted to the rank of Sergeant;

- 29 • May 1995, assigned to the Training Division;
- 30 • June 1995, assigned the duties and responsibilities of the
- 31 S.W.A.T. Team;
- 32 • October 1995, Training Officer for Cadet Class 51 (first
- 33 training class);
- 34 • November 1995, promoted to Master Sergeant and assigned
- 35 Assistant Training Officer;
- 36 • June 1997, assigned Acting Director of MHP Training and
- 37 S.W.A.T. Team;
- 38 • February 1998, promoted to Lieutenant/Assistant Director
- 39 of Training Division and Director of Tactical Unit;
- 40 • January 2000, assigned Acting Director of Training;
- 41 • May 2000, promoted to Captain, Director of Training;
- 42 • June 2001, graduated from the Federal Bureau of
- 43 Investigation;
- 44 • Trained cadet classes #51 through current; and

45 WHEREAS, Tony and his wife, Deborah, have two sons, Brent

46 (18) and Hunter (12). Brent has been in the U.S. Army Special

47 Forces since November 2005, and Hunter is a student at Northwest

48 Rankin County Schools; and

49 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we note the dedicated

50 public service of this law enforcement professional who has

51 dedicated his career to the safety of Mississippi citizens, and

52 who has brought honor to his department and to the State of

53 Mississippi:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

55 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That

56 we do hereby commend the dedicated professional service of Captain

57 Tony Ray Thornton, Director of Training for the Mississippi

58 Highway Patrol and S.W.A.T. Team, on the occasion of his

59 retirement after 24 years of service, and extend to him and his

60 family the best wishes of the Legislature in his future endeavors.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
62 Captain Thornton and forwarded to the Commissioner of Public
63 Safety, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.