MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION 2006

To: Rules

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Ross, Lee (35th), Albritton, Browning, Burton, Butler, Carmichael, Chaney, Clarke, Flowers, Frazier, Gordon, Hyde-Smith, Jackson (15th), Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd), Jordan, King, Little, Mettetal, Michel, Moffatt, Morgan, Pickering, Posey, Robertson, Thames, Thomas, Walls, White, Wilemon

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 636

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND 1 2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD STAFF SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER L. ROBINSON OF BRANDON, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN ON SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2006, AND EXPRESSING 3 4 THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE. 5 б WHEREAS, Mississippi National Guard Staff Sergeant 7 Christopher L. Robinson, 36, of Brandon, Mississippi, was killed by small arms fire in action on Saturday, March 25, 2006, while 8 9 conducting combat patrol near the Sangain District in Afghanistan 10 supporting Operation Enduring Freedom; and WHEREAS, Sergeant Robinson was assigned to the Headquarters 11 Detachment, Second Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group in 12 13 Jackson; and 14 WHEREAS, Sergeant Robinson was the first Mississippi National Guard soldier to die in Afghanistan since the invasion began in 15 16 2001; and WHEREAS, Sergeant Robinson was on his second deployment to 17 Afghanistan, where he trained Afghan special forces. He was one 18 19 of about 190 soldiers deployed in 2003. He came back in 2004, and then volunteered for redeployment for the September 2005 mission; 20 21 and 22 WHEREAS, flags flew at half-staff in his adopted home of Brandon, Mississippi, during the week prior to April 1, 2006, when 23 he was buried with full military honors and was posthumously 24 awarded the Bronze Star, Medal for Valor, Meritorious Service 25 Medal, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman Badge; and 26 27 WHEREAS, Sergeant Robinson was a true patriot from a military family and his family was the most important thing in his life. 28

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He stated to his father, "Don't cry for me if I get killed where I'm going. It would be the most honorable thing I could ever do to die for my country"; and

32 WHEREAS, at least 41 soldiers with Mississippi ties have died
33 since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

34 WHEREAS, Sergeant Robinson is survived by his wife, Tamara; daughter, Savannah; son, Patrick of Brandon; parents, George and 35 36 Mary, of Madison; sister and brother-in-law, Denise and Jay Schimmel of Jackson; mother-in-law, Doris McNair, and Bobby Maddox 37 38 of Raleigh; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Jimmie and Shara 39 McNair of Jackson; grandparents, Ed Prince of Pensacola, Florida, Ola Buntin of Madison, Hazel Jones of Magee, Edna Hollingsworth of 40 41 Madison, and Thurman and Geneva Parish of West Point; and many 42 close friends; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Robinson was a loving father in the 43 springtime of his life, who is counted among America's heroes and 44 45 was committed to our nation's safety and security. To a country, a fallen soldier means a national loss; to a community, a fallen 46 soldier means a true hero; to a parent, a fallen soldier means a 47 48 son who won't be coming home; and to a wife and child, a fallen soldier means a husband and father who won't be coming home. 49 50 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility 51 52 that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and 53 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it today: 54

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF 55 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That 56 57 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of Mississippi National Guard Staff Sergeant Christopher L. Robinson 58 59 of Brandon, Mississippi, who was killed in action in Afghanistan 60 on Saturday, March 25, 2006, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the Legislature to his family and our sorrow on his passing. 61 *SS02/R1387* 636 S. C. R. No. 06/SS02/R1387 PAGE 2

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to 63 the surviving family of Sergeant Robinson and be made available to 64 the Capitol Press Corps.