

By: Senator(s) Burton,
Carmichael, Jackson (32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 512

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT 1ST CLASS
3 CLARENCE D. MCSWAIN OF MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN
4 ACTION IN IRAQ ON JUNE 8, 2006, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE
5 LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant 1st Class Clarence D.
7 McSwain, 31, a 12-year Army veteran serving his third tour of duty
8 in Iraq, was killed in action on Thursday, June 8, 2006, by an
9 exploding roadside bomb while traveling in a convoy near Al Kut,
10 115 miles southeast of Baghdad; and

11 WHEREAS, Sergeant McSwain was assigned to the 2nd Battalion,
12 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne
13 Division (Air Assault) in Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

14 WHEREAS, carried by an Army Honor Guard, he was buried with
15 full military honors on Saturday, June 17, 2006, in Clarksville,
16 Tennessee, near Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he was stationed,
17 during which he was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. A
18 memorial service was held on Saturday, June 24, 2006, at United
19 Missionary Baptist Church in Laurel, Mississippi; and

20 WHEREAS, Sergeant McSwain was a dedicated soldier and devoted
21 family man. He was a 1993 graduate of Meridian High School, where
22 he played football and was an honors graduate. He majored in
23 English at the University of Southern Mississippi before enlisting
24 in the United States Army at 19 years of age; and

25 WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, at
26 least 43 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have died in
27 action; and

28 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Kendra; two daughters,
29 Krista and Jakayla; an infant son, Kenneth (who he had seen only
30 once when he was home on leave for Kenneth's birth); a
31 stepdaughter, Jasmin; his father, the Reverend Theodis McSwain; a
32 devoted sister, Ashley; and many close friends; and

33 WHEREAS, Clarence McSwain was a loving father who is counted
34 among America's heroes, committed to our nation's safety and
35 security. To a country, a fallen soldier means a national loss;
36 to a community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a parent, a
37 fallen soldier means a son who won't be coming home.

38 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have
39 paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility
40 that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and
41 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it
42 today:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
44 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
45 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
46 United States Army Sergeant 1st Class Clarence D. McSwain of
47 Meridian, Mississippi, who was killed in action in Iraq on
48 Thursday, June 8, 2006, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the
49 Legislature to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
51 the surviving family of Sergeant McSwain and be made available to
52 members of the Capitol Press Corps.