

By: Senator(s) Turner, Jackson (15th),
Albritton, Browning, Butler, Carmichael,
Chaney, Clarke, Davis, Dawkins, Dearing,
Fillingane, Frazier, Gollott, Gordon, Hewes,
Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd),
Jordan, King, Lee (35th), Little, Mettetal,
Michel, Morgan, Pickering, Posey, Ross,
Thames, Thomas, Tollison, Walls, White,
Wilemon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 504

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT COURTLAND A.
3 KENNARD OF STARKVILLE MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN
4 IRAQ ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2006, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF
5 THE LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Courtland A. Kennard,
7 22, of Starkville, Mississippi, was killed in action on Thursday,
8 November 9, 2006, along with Staff Sergeant Gregory McCoy of
9 Webberville, Michigan, when an explosive detonated near their
10 vehicle in Baghdad, Iraq; and

11 WHEREAS, Sergeant Kennard was assigned to the Army's 410th
12 Military Police Company, 720th Military Police Battalion, 89th
13 Military Police Brigade based in Fort Hood, Texas. *The Associated*
14 *Press* has counted at least 45 soldiers with strong Mississippi
15 ties who have died in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. One,
16 Staff Sergeant Christopher L. Robinson, died in Afghanistan; the
17 others were killed in Iraq; and

18 WHEREAS, Sergeant Courtland Kennard attended elementary
19 school in Starkville, Mississippi, and graduated from an American
20 high school in Wiesbaden, Germany, in 2002, while his father was
21 stationed there. He was a teenager when he decided he would join
22 the military. "When he got about 14 years old, he kind of just
23 wanted to follow his daddy's footsteps," his great-uncle, Bobby
24 Macon, said; and

25 WHEREAS, Sergeant Kennard's parents, Douglas and Darlene
26 Kennard, are moving back to Starkville, Mississippi, from Fort
27 Hood, Texas, where Douglas Kennard recently retired after 21 years
28 in the Army; and

29 WHEREAS, carried by an Army Honor Guard, he returned to his
30 former home and was buried on Saturday, November 18, 2006, in the
31 Memorial Garden Cemetery in Starkville, with full military honors;
32 during the funeral he was awarded the Bronze Star; and

33 WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, at
34 least 45 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have died in
35 action; and

36 WHEREAS, he is survived by his parents; brother, Jamar
37 Kennard; and grandparents, Emma Kennard and C.D., and Luevenia
38 Simmons, all of Starkville, Mississippi; and

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

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
49 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
50 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
51 United States Army Sergeant Courtland A. Kennard of Starkville,
52 Mississippi, who was killed in action in Iraq on Thursday,
53 November 9, 2006, and extend our thoughts and prayers to his
54 family and our sorrow on his passing.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
56 the surviving family of Sergeant Kennard and be made available to
57 the Capitol Press Corps.