

By: Senator(s) Little

To: Rules

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 13

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CNN CORRESPONDENT KATHLEEN KOCH FOR  
2 HER EXCEPTIONAL COVERAGE OF THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE KATRINA ON  
3 THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST AND WELCOMING HER TO THE STATE OF  
4 MISSISSIPPI.

5 WHEREAS, Kathleen Koch is a Mississippi higher education  
6 success story. She is a CNN General Assignment Correspondent  
7 based in Washington, D.C., specializing in aviation reporting at  
8 the Pentagon and the White House; and

9 WHEREAS, Kathleen is the keynote speaker at the HEADWAE  
10 (Higher Education Appreciation Day-Working for Academic  
11 Excellence) annual event held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2005 and 2006, Kathleen Koch provided moving  
13 reports from the Gulf Coast during and in the aftermath of  
14 Hurricane Katrina. Her reports were featured in CNN Presents:  
15 Saving My Town -- The Fight for Bay Saint Louis, a special that  
16 looked at the progress of Koch's hometown in Mississippi six  
17 months after Katrina. These reports were meaningful because  
18 Kathleen is a native of the Gulf Coast and her knowledge and love  
19 of the Coast were evident; and

20 WHEREAS, Kathleen is a former student at Our Lady Academy in  
21 Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi, and in 2006 was chosen as the  
22 honoree of the Academy's 2006 gala fund-raiser for her exceptional  
23 continuing coverage of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; and

24 WHEREAS, Koch began her career, hired before graduating  
25 college, as a reporter and weekend anchor for WLOX-TV13 in Biloxi.  
26 Koch was a Rotary Foundation International Graduate Scholar at the  
27 University of Dijon in Dijon, France. She studied Journalism at

28 the University of Southern Mississippi, where she was one of only  
29 40 freshmen accepted into the university's honors program; and

30 WHEREAS, in 2004, Koch traveled the country covering the  
31 campaign of President George Bush, before being deployed south to  
32 Florida to report on the deadly series of hurricanes lashing that  
33 state. In 2003, she was part of CNN's around-the-clock coverage  
34 from the Pentagon on the buildup to and the launch of the Iraq  
35 War. A year earlier, Koch was one of the primary correspondents  
36 covering the Washington, D.C.-area sniper attacks. In 2001, she  
37 was part of CNN's Emmy award-winning coverage of the September  
38 11th terrorist attacks. Two months later, Koch was lead  
39 correspondent on CNN's coverage of the crash of American Airlines  
40 Flight 587 in New York; and

41 WHEREAS, before joining CNN, Koch was a general assignment  
42 reporter covering Washington, D.C. for multiple news  
43 organizations. She was also a consumer and medical reporter for  
44 the Group W Newsfeed Network and a weekend reporter at WRC-TV in  
45 Washington, D.C. She was an anchor and State Department  
46 Correspondent for "America Today," the U.S. Information Agency's  
47 two-hour daily international news broadcast to Europe; and

48 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the unique  
49 contributions of this former Mississippian who has helped  
50 introduce the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast to the people  
51 of America and to keep Mississippi in the national focus:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
53 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend CNN Washington D.C. Bureau  
54 Correspondent and USM graduate Kathleen Koch for her exceptional  
55 coverage of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina on the Mississippi  
56 Gulf Coast and welcome her to the State of Mississippi as keynote  
57 speaker for the annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation  
58 Day-Working for Academic Excellence) event in Jackson,  
59 Mississippi, on Tuesday, February 20, 2007.

60           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
61 Kathleen Koch and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.