

By: Representatives Barker, Byrd, Ellis, Frierson, Johnson (87th), Mims, Morgan, Myers, Pigott, Roberson, Touchstone, Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

1 . A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING  
2 THE LIFE, LEGACY AND EXTRAORDINARY COURAGE OF OFFICER LIQUORI TATE  
3 OF THE HATTIESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT.

4 WHEREAS, "To everything there is a season, and a time to  
5 every purpose under the Heaven," and as such, the grand architect  
6 of the universe, the immaculate author and finisher of our soul's  
7 destiny has summoned the mortal presence of dearly beloved,  
8 Officer Liquori Tate, to eternal rest, as he has made life's final  
9 transition from earthly travailing to heavenly reward rendering  
10 great sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

11 WHEREAS, an officer with the Hattiesburg Police Department,  
12 Liquori Tate, the epitome of a true American hero, was providing  
13 back up assistance to fellow officer, 34-year-old Benjamin "BJ"  
14 Deen, during a routine traffic stop, when both officers were  
15 killed in the line of duty on Saturday, May 9, 2015; and

16 WHEREAS, born on February 12, 1990, in Starkville,  
17 Mississippi, to Mrs. Yolander Ross (Bernell) and Mr. Ronald Tate,  
18 Liquori was a devoted brother to his 13 siblings, having developed



19 an innate passion to protect and serve as early as his fourth  
20 birthday, which became a dream manifested on June 11, 2014, when  
21 he successfully completed the requisite training and graduated  
22 from the police academy to become a sworn law enforcement officer  
23 with the City of Hattiesburg Police Department; and

24 WHEREAS, having moved to Pike County in 2005 after relocating  
25 from Starkville, Officer Tate developed an indescribable affinity  
26 for McComb, where he graduated from South Pike High School in 2009  
27 and later received his associate's degree from Southwest  
28 Mississippi Community College, which served as a true anchor to  
29 his humanity, as being the place where he initiated his walk with  
30 God after accepting salvation's saving grace at Walker's Chapel  
31 Free Will Baptist Church, McComb; and

32 WHEREAS, described by his stepfather, Lonnie Ross, who raised  
33 him from childhood, as a very balanced, respectful and loving  
34 young man who loved his family and who loved life with unwavering  
35 zeal, as evidenced by his fondness of having fun and laughing, as  
36 well as rendering unto God what was his reasonable service through  
37 his ministry of playing the drums for the male chorus and serving  
38 as an usher; and

39 WHEREAS, a rock star amongst his siblings and role model for  
40 young men in his church, Officer Tate's passion and enthusiasm  
41 about his work as a public servant and officer of the law  
42 highlighted his selflessness and complimented his award-winning  
43 smile, and soon won over the adoration of his fellow officers, who



44 can reflect upon a smile that would never disappear, even  
45 throughout the rigorous training at the academy that included  
46 hundreds of laps, sit-ups, pushups and other strenuous activities;  
47 and

48 WHEREAS, a member of Hattiesburg Police Department's  
49 Graduating Class #31, Officer Tate always reported to work on time  
50 and ready to better his community at every turn, as well as issue  
51 citations to individuals caught breaking the law, all with that  
52 infectious smile while working tirelessly to strengthen his  
53 relationship with the community; and

54 WHEREAS, despite knowing the risk involved with his line of  
55 work, Liquori never wavered in his decision to put on his uniform  
56 daily and perform a job that required him to put his own life on  
57 the line in order to maintain order, keep the peace, apprehend  
58 dangerous criminals, safeguard the American system of justice and  
59 ultimately protect the country he loved; and

60 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to now  
61 stand upon the celestial shore of Heaven's grandeur, the legacy of  
62 Officer Liquori Tate's memory will continue to refresh the hearts  
63 and fond memories of his beloved survivors and colleagues; and

64 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the this Legislature to honor  
65 heroic Mississippians such as Officer Liquori Tate, who valiantly  
66 sacrificed his life for the City of Hattiesburg and the State of  
67 Mississippi, while reflecting a work ethic and caliber of



68 compassion that leaves an indelible imprint of greatness on the  
69 City of Hattiesburg, our state and nation:

70       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
71 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
72 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the  
73 life, legacy and extraordinary courage of Officer Liquori Tate and  
74 extend sincere and deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon  
75 his passing.

76       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
77 furnished to the family of Officer Liquori Tate, Hattiesburg  
78 Police Department and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

