

By: Senator(s) Hudson, Fillingane, Polk,
Burton, Caughman, DeBar, Frazier, Jackson
(11th), Jackson (32nd), Jolly, Massey, Stone

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 551

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE
2 LEGISLATURE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILY AND PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY
3 OF HATTIESBURG POLICE PATROLMAN BENJAMIN J. DEEN.

4 WHEREAS, Hattiesburg Police Patrolmen Benjamin Deen and
5 Liquori Tate were lost in the line of duty on May 9, 2015, while
6 making a traffic stop; and

7 WHEREAS, the younger son of Dan and Mary Ellen Deen, and the
8 youngest of their three children, Patrolman Benjamin Deen absorbed
9 the family trait of immersing himself into whatever happened to
10 engage his involvement. Deen served as a Firefighter in Columbia
11 for two years before becoming an Officer with the Hattiesburg
12 Police Department on May 20, 2009. He was named Hattiesburg
13 Police Department Officer of the Year in 2012. Deen met his
14 future wife, Robin, at school and started dating her in junior
15 high. The couple had been married for 15 years, and he was
16 devoted to his wife and their young children, Melah and Walker;
17 and



18 WHEREAS, Governor Phil Bryant ordered all Mississippi state
19 flags to be lowered at public buildings in memory of the fallen
20 officers. Many public officials, including the Governor,
21 Lieutenant Governor, Mayor of Hattiesburg, Mississippi Legislators
22 and the U.S. Attorney General, mourned this tragedy, which was a
23 shocking assault on law enforcement officers in Hattiesburg and in
24 the State of Mississippi. The death of these law enforcement
25 officers happened while the nation was observing Police Week to
26 honor the more than 20,000 officers who have been killed in the
27 line of duty. A memorial service was held in Hattiesburg on May
28 11, 2015, where over 1,000 Mississippi citizens paid tribute to
29 his memory; and

30 WHEREAS, Benjamin Deen will be remembered by the public as a
31 Hattiesburg Police Officer who gave his life in the line of duty,
32 and J.T. Taylor recalls a surrogate brother who enjoyed family
33 more than anything else in his life, which will be the legacy Deen
34 leaves behind, one of devotion to family and duty, to service and
35 friends; and

36 WHEREAS, the state has lost a young citizen who represented
37 the best in the police and the best in Mississippi. We can never
38 repay our debt to this officer and his family, but we must do what
39 we can, with all that we have, to live our lives in a way that
40 pays tribute to his memory. We should not pause and remember to
41 thank police officers only in the wake of tragedy, we should do it
42 every day:



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 extend the condolences of the Legislature to the
46 surviving family and pay tribute to the memory of Hattiesburg
47 Police Patrolman Benjamin J. Deen.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
49 the surviving family of Police Patrolman Benjamin J. Deen,
50 forwarded to the Hattiesburg Police Department, and made available
51 to the Capitol Press Corps.

