

By: Senator(s) Blackmon, Barnett, Butler,
Dawkins, Frazier, Horhn, Jackson (11th),
Jackson (32nd), Jordan, Norwood, Simmons
(12th), Simmons (13th), Turner-Ford,
Witherspoon, Bryan

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 571

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING
2 THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANTON POLICE SERGEANT
3 LINDA LYNETTE NICHOLS-LUCKETT, AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO
4 HER FAMILY, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS UPON HER PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, the grand architect of the universe, the immaculate
6 author and finisher of our soul's destiny, has summoned the mortal
7 presence of our dearly beloved, Linda Lynette Nichols-Luckett, to
8 eternal rest, as she has made life's final transition from earthly
9 travailing to heavenly reward, rendering great sorrow and loss to
10 her family, colleagues and friends; and

11 WHEREAS, born on October 14, 1963, in West Point,
12 Mississippi, to Ms. Bettye J. Turner and the late Mr. Hyron
13 Anderson, but as fate would lend itself for the total fulfillment
14 of her life, Linda was adopted by Mr. Richard Nichols, Sr., at the
15 age of eight when he assumed the role as her mother's husband, and
16 nurtured her as his own daughter, bestowing upon her the gift of
17 the Nichols' surname, along with integrity premised on the tenets
18 of love, kindness, compassion and a central moral and ethical
19 compass that echoed the heart of the Good Samaritan; and



20 WHEREAS, the City of Canton and the entirety of Madison
21 County, Mississippi, lost a wonderful friend, people's servant,
22 advocate, community leader, source of ministerial inspiration and
23 champion for justice on January 18, 2018, with the transformation
24 from mortality to spiritual immortality of Sergeant
25 Nichols-Luckett, who was a beacon of light and source of
26 inspiration that shined as brilliantly as the illuminated downtown
27 square of the place she called home, most commonly referred to as
28 the "City of Lights"; and

29 WHEREAS, from her humble beginnings, Linda, along with her
30 siblings, were the recipients of a stern advocacy for education
31 imparted by their parents, who chronicled her educational
32 successes from her years as an impressionable and inquisitive
33 student at Eastside Elementary and Holy Child Jesus, before she
34 concluded her public education as a member of the 1981 Canton High
35 School graduating class, to pursue her collegiate matriculation at
36 Mary Holmes College, Mississippi State University and the
37 University of Mississippi; and

38 WHEREAS, Ms. Nichols-Luckett began her distinguished career
39 of public service with the Mississippi Department of Corrections,
40 which equipped her for the tactical and the methodical skills
41 necessary for a successful career in law enforcement, which made
42 provision for her transition to the Canton Police Department in
43 1995, after being hired as a Patrol Officer by acting Assistant
44 Police Chief Vicki McNeil, where her rapport with peers and



45 attention to the detail of proper police protocol and procedure
46 enabled her to quickly ascend the ranks to become Sergeant and
47 Shift Commander; and

48 WHEREAS, having taken a four-year break from policing to
49 pursue other career opportunities in the insurance profession from
50 2005-2009, Sergeant Nichols-Luckett ultimately made the fateful
51 decision to return to law enforcement, reunited with the Canton
52 Police Department as a ten-year seasoned veteran, and was quickly
53 promoted to Sergeant, rank-tapped to lead the Property and
54 Evidence Division after undergoing significant training with the
55 United States Department of Labor, as well as serving as
56 second-in-command for accreditation, a capacity served until her
57 untimely departure from this earthly realm; and

58 WHEREAS, a patron heroine on the battlefield for justice and
59 kingdom-building as an impassioned ordained Minister of the gospel
60 poised to impart spiritual nourishment to give those confronted
61 with various life situations with more faith to continue pressing
62 toward the mark of the prize of the higher calling. Sergeant
63 Nichols-Luckett, who in addition to being a lifelong member of St.
64 Paul A.M.E. Church, drew upon the wisdom and invaluable
65 experiences attained over the years of theological study to herald
66 a passion for saving souls as an Associate Minister, Choir Member
67 and Christian Education Worker that would remain her constant; and

68 WHEREAS, from a disciplined and structured officer of the law
69 to a proselytizing member of the Ecclesiastical gospel, Sergeant



70 Nichols-Luckett's service assembled into a beautiful mosaic of
71 uncontrived humility that spoke voluminously of her innate ability
72 to serve those who entrusted her with the confidences of their
73 safety and their salvation; and

74 WHEREAS, during the course of her numerous years with the
75 Canton Police Department, Sergeant Nichols-Luckett drew heavily
76 upon her leadership skills and personal relationship with the
77 community in which she lived and worked to ensure her career would
78 be characterized as one of venerable service and selfless
79 humility; and

80 WHEREAS, though she has traversed the river of life to
81 reunite with those who answered God's summons to life eternal and
82 now beckon her arrival to the celestial shores of heaven's
83 grandeur, including her father, Richard Nichols, Sr.;
84 grandparents: Robert and Ethel B. Hunter-Turner and Willie S. and
85 Blanche H. Nichols; and seven aunts and uncles, including the late
86 esteemed State Senator Bennie L. Turner, the legacy of Sergeant
87 Nichols-Luckett's memory will continue to refresh the hearts and
88 fond memories of her beloved survivors: daughters, Brittany and
89 Jalesa Nichols; mother, Mrs. Betty J. Turner-Nichols; highly
90 anticipated and expected grandson, Martia Roberts, Jr.; brothers,
91 Benjamin Turner and Richard Nichols, Jr.; sisters, LaDonna Nichols
92 and Monica Branson; and a host of other relatives, colleagues and
93 friends; and



94 WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the
95 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their
96 beloved family member, for the former things are passed away and
97 renewed in their faith that Sergeant Nichols-Luckett fulfilled the
98 commandment by having fought a good fight, finishing her course
99 and keeping the faith until the hour of her departure was at hand;
100 and

101 WHEREAS, Sergeant Nichols-Luckett, an individual of quiet
102 dignity, was a solemn voice of reason, who epitomized the greatest
103 lessons of strength, endurance and devotion to the calls of duty
104 and unmitigated faith, even in the face of adversity, and it is
105 the policy of the Legislature to acknowledge the altruistic
106 embodiment of a woman of distinction who possessed an ambitious
107 spirit as she strove daily to be a woman after God's own heart
108 whose service established the benchmark for the highest standard
109 of excellence as a public servant:

110 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
111 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
112 we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of
113 public service of Canton Police Sergeant Linda Lynette
114 Nichols-Luckett, to whose family we express our sincere and
115 deepest sympathy.

116 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
117 presented to the family of Sergeant Linda Lynette Nichols-Luckett
118 and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

