

By: Representatives Anderson,
Clarke

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMENDING THE
2 DISTINGUISHED LIFE, PUBLIC SERVICE AND ESTEEMED CAREER OF WAR
3 PATRIOT, NATIONAL HERO AND AMERICAN POLITICIAN EXTRAORDINAIRE, THE
4 HONORABLE UNITED STATES SENATOR JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN III, AND
5 EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY, COLLEAGUES,
6 CONSTITUENTS AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

7 WHEREAS, it is written in II Corinthians 4:17-18, "For our
8 light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far
9 more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at
10 the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:
11 for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which
12 are not seen are eternal," and as such, the immaculate author and
13 finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of the
14 Honorable United States Senator John Sidney McCain III of Arizona,
15 to rest eternally, on Saturday, August 25, 2018, as he has made
16 life's final transition from earthly travailing to heavenly
17 reward, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and friends;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the entirety of the United States lost a true
20 patriot, naval aviator, war hero and beacon of America's political



21 prowess with the passing of Senator John Sidney McCain III, born
22 on August 29, 1936, the son of late United States naval officer,
23 John Sidney McCain Jr., and his wife, Roberta Wright McCain, at
24 Coco Solo Naval Station in the Panama Canal Zone, and there is now
25 a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our respects to
26 the memory of one who has been called to join that innumerable
27 heavenly caravan; and

28 WHEREAS, unequivocally destined to be a public servant, as
29 deeply entrenched by the core values and tenets of selfless
30 sacrifice instilled by his parents, Senator McCain, a 1958
31 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, who followed in his
32 four-star admirals father and grandfather's footsteps, became a
33 naval aviator and ground attack aircraft pilot during the Vietnam
34 War; and

35 WHEREAS, enduring the unpredictable hardships of foreign
36 conflict, Senator McCain survived the fire aboard the USS
37 Forrestal in 1967, only to be shot down in his A-4E Skyhawk during
38 a bombing mission, Operation Rolling Thunder over Hanoi in October
39 1967, suffering serious injury, captured and tortured by the North
40 Vietnamese as a prisoner of war until 1973, which resulted in
41 lifelong physical health implications, and garnered him the title
42 of an American hero; and

43 WHEREAS, retiring from the United States as a Captain in 1981
44 and relocating to Arizona, McCain tossed his hat in the political
45 arena, running for and winning his first bid for Congress in his



46 1982 campaign for the United States House of Representatives,
47 where he served two terms before transitioning into the United
48 States Senate in 1987, wherein he easily won five consecutive bids
49 for reelection; and

50 WHEREAS, while generally adhering to conservative principles,
51 Senator McCain, who not only demanded the respect of his
52 colleagues, but earned that respect and rapport by virtue of his
53 military service and no-nonsense approach to addressing the most
54 pressing needs of this nation, rose within the ranks of D.C.'s
55 powerful political influence and served as Chairman of the Senate
56 Commerce Committee and subsequent thereto as Chairman of the
57 Senate Armed Services Committee in 2015, developing a reputation
58 in the media as a political "maverick" for his willingness to
59 disagree with his party on certain issues; and

60 WHEREAS, Senator McCain has been described as a "patriot of
61 the highest order" and a "public servant in the finest traditions
62 of our country," by former President George W. Bush, a sentiment
63 echoed by former President Barack H. Obama, who stated the "Few of
64 us have been tested the way John once was, or required to show the
65 kind of courage that he did, but all of us can aspire to the
66 courage to put the greater good above our own. At John's best, he
67 showed us what that means"; and

68 WHEREAS, the Arizonan warrior politician's career in
69 Washington spanned 40 years, first as a Navy Senate liaison and
70 then as an elected official, maneuvers that sharpened him as a



71 true conservative and foreign policy hawk, one who proclaimed in a
72 speech at the Republican National Convention in his second bid for
73 the office of United States President, that "I fell in love with
74 my country when I was a prisoner in someone else's. I loved it
75 because it was not just a place, but an idea, a cause worth
76 fighting for. I was never the same again; I wasn't my own man
77 anymore; I was my country's"; and

78 WHEREAS, it was this rationale that enabled Senator McCain to
79 develop an impeccable ability to reach across the aisle of the
80 Republican and Democratic parties' divide to place the essential
81 needs and heightened policy concerns to build consensus and
82 bipartisan coalitions to demonstrate unmitigated principles that
83 the priority of these United States always supersedes those of
84 partisan politics; and

85 WHEREAS, a celebrated and highly decorated war hero, who held
86 the Silver Star, two Legion of Merits, Distinguished Flying Cross,
87 three Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, two Navy and Marine
88 Corps Commendation Medals and the Prisoner of War Medal, Senator
89 McCain carried his own name into battle and into political fights
90 for more than half a century, an odyssey driven by raw ambition
91 and the conservative instincts of a shrewd military man with a
92 resilient tenacity to advance the United States on the world
93 stage; and

94 WHEREAS, one whose life and service has left an indelible
95 imprint upon this nation, world and the political arena, Senator



96 McCain's departure will mostly be endured by his survivors, who
97 have both supported and defended him throughout his career as a
98 national politician, including: his wife of 38 years, Mrs. Cindy
99 Lou Hensley McCain; children, Douglas, Andrew, Sidney, John IV,
100 James, Meghan and Bridget; his 106-year-old mother, Mrs. Roberta
101 Wright McCain; five grandchildren; brother, Joe McCain; and a host
102 of family, colleagues and very dear friends; and

103 WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the
104 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their
105 beloved family member and be renewed in their faith that Senator
106 McCain fulfilled the purpose of his appointed time in adherence to
107 the commandment of II Timothy 4:7, by having "fought a good fight,
108 finishing his course and keeping the faith until the hour of his
109 departure was at hand"; and

110 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
111 commend the life of an iconic staple of our national governing
112 structure as the honorable gentleman from Arizona, Senator McCain,
113 whose life light illuminated the path of hope for all he
114 encountered along this earthly sojourn and inspired a nation to
115 believe in the mantra of selfless perseverance:

116 NOW, THEREFORE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
117 THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby mourn the loss and
118 commend the distinguished life, public service and esteemed career
119 of war patriot, national hero and American politician
120 extraordinaire, the Honorable United States Senator John Sidney



121 McCain III, to whose family we express sincere and deepest
122 sympathy upon his passing.

123 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
124 furnished to the surviving family members of Senator John Sidney
125 McCain III and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

