

By: Senator(s) Burton,  
Blackwell, Blount, Branning,  
Browning, Carmichael,  
Caughman, Chassaniol,  
Clarke, Dawkins, DeBar,  
Dearing, Doty, Fillingane,  
Frazier, Gollott, Harkins,  
Hopson, Horhn, Jackson  
(11th), Jackson (15th),  
Jackson (32nd), Jordan,  
Kirby, Massey, McMahan,  
Michel, Norwood, Parker,  
Polk, Seymour, Simmons  
(12th), Simmons (13th),  
Watson, Whaley, Wiggins, Wilemon

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND REMEMBERING THE  
2 MILITARY, CIVIC AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE OF UNITED STATES  
3 SENATOR JOHN SIDNEY MCCAIN, III, AND EXTENDING THE CONDOLENCES OF  
4 THE SENATE ON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is with extreme sadness that we note the passing  
6 of the senior United States Senator from Arizona and former  
7 nominee for President in the 2008 election, John Sidney McCain,  
8 III, who passed away on August 25, 2018; and

9 WHEREAS, born on August 29, 1936, in Panama -- a U.S.  
10 protectorate at the time -- McCain hailed from a distinguished  
11 naval family. Both his father and grandfather, who he was named  
12 after, were Admirals in the United States Navy; and

13 WHEREAS, following in their footsteps, McCain enrolled in the  
14 United States Naval Academy, which he attended from 1954 until  
15 1958, and after graduation, he embarked on a career as a Naval  
16 Aviator, flying dozens of bombing missions during the Vietnam War;  
17 and



18           WHEREAS, on a raid over Hanoi on October 26, 1967, McCain's  
19 plane was struck by a missile, forcing him to eject, and breaking  
20 both his arms and a leg. He was held by the North Vietnamese as a  
21 prisoner of war for 5-1/2 years, more than two of those years  
22 spent in solitary confinement; and

23           WHEREAS, when offered a chance at early release, McCain  
24 refused to be repatriated before other American detainees who had  
25 been held longer than he, out of respect for the POW Code of  
26 Conduct; and

27           WHEREAS, among the military medals McCain earned were three  
28 Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, two Legion of Merit Awards, a  
29 Silver Star, and the Distinguished Flying Cross; and

30           WHEREAS, McCain retired from the Navy in 1981, moving to  
31 Arizona, and was elected to the United States House of  
32 Representatives, where he served two terms before setting his  
33 sights on the U.S. Senate, which he joined in 1987 and to which he  
34 won easily re-election five times (most recently in 2016); and

35           WHEREAS, Senator McCain first earned a reputation as a  
36 maverick in 2000, when he ran an insurgent campaign to become the  
37 Republican nominee for President. The little-known Senator from  
38 Arizona's compelling past as a POW and calls for political reform  
39 appealed to moderate and independent voters. He ended his  
40 candidacy, however, after two major defeats in the primaries,  
41 paving the way for then Texas Governor George W. Bush to win the  
42 White House; and



43           WHEREAS, in 2008, Senator McCain made a second attempt at the  
44 White House, becoming the Republican nominee but losing the  
45 popular vote to Democrat Barack Obama, 53% to 46%; and

46           WHEREAS, in Congress, Senator McCain emerged as a powerful  
47 new Republican voice, one that wasn't afraid of challenging his  
48 party. He was a pro-business conservative, free-market advocate  
49 and abortion foe, and made election campaign finance reform a  
50 signature concern; and

51           WHEREAS, long before he entered a career in politics, Senator  
52 McCain established a Mississippi connection when he spent 2-1/2  
53 years as a Flight Instructor at the Naval Air Station in Meridian  
54 in the 1960s. His grandfather, John S. McCain, Sr., was also born  
55 in Carroll County, Mississippi, and attended Ole Miss for two  
56 years before attending the United States Naval Academy; and

57           WHEREAS, in 2016, Senator McCain said in a telephone  
58 interview that he had wonderful memories of the people in Meridian  
59 and Lauderdale County, and was honored to have served as an  
60 Instructor at the airfield that was named in memory of his  
61 grandfather; and

62           WHEREAS, Senator McCain died Saturday, August 25, 2018, after  
63 battling brain cancer for more than a year, and is survived by his  
64 wife, Cindy; his seven children; and five grandchildren. While he  
65 has departed this earth, his worldly impact on his friends, family  
66 and fellow countrymen will never be forgotten:



67           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
68 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby honor the military, civic and  
69 dedicated public service of United States Senator John Sidney  
70 McCain, III, and extend the condolences of the Senate to his  
71 surviving family on his passing.

72           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted  
73 to the surviving family of Senator McCain and made available to  
74 the Capitol Press Corps.

