

By: Senator(s) Doty, Barnett, Jackson
(32nd), Blackwell, Branning, Browning,
Burton, Carmichael, Caughman, Chassaniol,
Clarke, Dawkins, DeBar, Dearing, Fillingane,
Frazier, Harkins, Hopson, Jackson (11th),
Jolly, Jordan, Kirby, Massey, McMahan,
Parker, Polk, Seymour, Turner-Ford, Watson,
Whaley, Wiggins, Wilemon, Witherspoon,
Younger

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 2

1 A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE
2 LEGISLATURE ON THE LOSS OF BROOKHAVEN POLICE OFFICER JAMES KEVIN
3 WHITE WHILE IN THE LINE OF DUTY AND EXTENDING OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY
4 TO HIS BEREAVED FAMILY.

5 WHEREAS, Brookhaven Police Officer James Kevin White (35) of
6 Sontag, Mississippi, passed away on September 29, 2018, while
7 serving and protecting the people of Brookhaven, Mississippi, an
8 event which saddened the State of Mississippi and the entire
9 nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Officer James White honorably served his country in
11 the Army National Guard in Operation Enduring Iraq Freedom. He
12 then became a Police Officer serving at the Brookhaven Police
13 Department where he laid down his life for his community serving
14 in the line of duty; and

15 WHEREAS, Governor Phil Bryant ordered State and American
16 flags on public property flown at half-staff from sunrise October
17 1, 2018, until sunset October 4, 2018, to mourn the loss of
18 Officer White and Highway Patrolman Moak. The Mississippi Highway
19 Patrol Honor Guard stood guard beside the officer's casket and



20 concluded with taps played and the rifle salutes at the graveside
21 service. The Honor Guard is a team of troopers who travel the
22 state to honor fallen law enforcement officers. It is the
23 greatest way to show honor for the ones who have sacrificed their
24 life; and

25 WHEREAS, Reverend Dustin George considers it "the highest
26 honor" to support the White and Moak families in their time of
27 loss. At these moments, words fall short as we try to make sense
28 of the tragedy, but there are some things we know for certain,
29 these officers are heroes. They gave their lives protecting and
30 serving the citizens of Brookhaven and they will be honored and
31 remembered for their sacrifice. We join our prayers with those of
32 so many others in our city, state and across the nation as we ask
33 God to bring healing, comfort and strength to these families and
34 to all who are a part of the law enforcement community; and

35 WHEREAS, on October 3, 2018, Governor Phil Bryant presented a
36 posthumous Mississippi Medal of Valor from the Army National Guard
37 to the family of Patrolman James White of the Brookhaven Police
38 Department for the line-of-duty sacrifice that added his name to
39 the pages of history. He had previously served in Iraq and
40 received the Purple Heart. A true American hero; and

41 WHEREAS, law enforcement was not James White's only army.
42 Jason Avants of Jackson described seeing a young soldier
43 protecting one of his comrades in Operation Iraqi Freedom. "This
44 young man, clearly injured, took a knee beside his friend, wiped



45 the blood, sweat and sand from his eyes, and with his weapon at
46 the ready, provided security for his injured friend. He did not
47 lay down. He did not hide. He did not cower in fear. He did his
48 job under the most adverse of conditions." This young soldier was
49 James White; and

50 WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his grandparents, J.C.
51 White, Jr., and Sally Turnage White. Those left to cherish his
52 memory are his parents, father, James Darrell White; mother,
53 Laurie Maxwell White and stepfather, Steve White; sons, James
54 Curtis, "J.C." White and James "Lee" Edward White; fiancé,
55 Elizebeth "Liz" Howell; sister, Lisa "Wese" White and Trey
56 McBlair; special honorary brother, Dustin Vanderslice; stepsister,
57 Leslie Kelly; stepbrother, Yaun White; and nieces and nephews:
58 Holly and Leiana Thornell, Colton Thornell, Sidnie and Steve
59 Henderson and Maggie and Hannah White. He is also survived by
60 grandparents, Curtis and Nadine Maxwell and Margaret Pitre along
61 with a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and brothers and sisters in
62 uniform; and

63 WHEREAS, we can never repay our debt to fallen law
64 enforcement officers and their families, but we must do what we
65 can, with all that we have, to live our lives in a way that pays
66 tribute to their memory. We should not pause and remember to
67 thank law enforcement officers only in the wake of tragedy, we
68 should do it every day:



69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
70 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby express the profound sorrow of the
71 Legislature on the loss of Brookhaven Police Officer James Kevin
72 White while on official duty and extend our deepest sympathy to
73 his bereaved family.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
75 the surviving family of Officer James Kevin White, forwarded to
76 the Brookhaven Chief of Police and the Governor and made available
77 to the Capitol Press Corps.

