

By: Representative Creekmore IV

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING MR. JOHN D.
2 ROBERTS UPON RECEIVING THE LEGION OF HONOR FOR HIS VALIANT AND
3 HEROIC SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II.

4 WHEREAS, the Consul General of France in Atlanta, Georgia,
5 recognized World War II veteran, Mr. John D. Roberts with the
6 Legion of Honor, France's highest merit, during a ceremony on
7 Thursday, February 15, 2024, at the Magnolia Civic Center, in New
8 Albany, Mississippi; and

9 WHEREAS, the Legion of Honor is bestowed upon French
10 citizens, as well as foreign nationals, who have served France or
11 the ideals it upholds, including veterans such as Americans who
12 risked their lives during World War II as they fought on French
13 soil; and

14 WHEREAS, President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron,
15 designates the recipients of the Legion of Honor, and Mr. Roberts
16 was recognized and presented with the honor by the Consul General
17 of France in Atlanta, Anne-Laure Desjonquieres; and



18 WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts embarked on his military journey on July
19 15, 1943, at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, undergoing basic training
20 at Camp McCain, and was subsequently stationed at Fort Eustis,
21 Virginia, and as he crossed the Atlantic Ocean aboard the General
22 Brooks troop transport ship, he was assigned to Company B, 117th
23 Infantry, 30th Infantry Division; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts landed in Normandy, France, six days
25 after D-Day, and the division engaged in relentless combat with
26 German forces, navigating from the East bank of the Vire River
27 through France into Germany, notably facing intense battles in
28 Mortain, France; and

29 WHEREAS, on October 3, 1944, during an operation near the
30 Rhine River, Mr. Roberts sustained injuries from a German mortar
31 round and a rifle round while positioned on a railroad track, and
32 he demonstrated unwavering courage; and

33 WHEREAS, following his extraordinary service, Mr. Roberts
34 received an honorable discharge on November 6, 1945, marking the
35 conclusion of his valiant contribution to the war effort; and

36 WHEREAS, in recognition of his service, Mr. Roberts was
37 awarded the World War II Victory Medal, the Purple Heart Medal,
38 the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Bronze
39 Star, the WWII Honorable Service Button, the Distinguished Unit
40 Badge, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Good Conduct Medal; and



41 WHEREAS, some of the best-known American recipients of the
42 Legion of Honor include General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Josephine
43 Baker; and

44 WHEREAS, some gave the ultimate price in order to protect the
45 American way of life, and Mr. Roberts certainly distinguished
46 himself as a fearless hero, as his unflinching courage,
47 unparalleled bravery and gallant sacrifice reflects lasting honor,
48 as he nobly put his life on the line to protect the freedoms of
49 all Americans during World War II; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to honor heroic
51 Mississippians such as Mr. Roberts for his dauntless fortitude and
52 remarkable dedication to the United States of America and to the
53 people of the State of Mississippi, who are eternally
54 appreciative, for without him, the freedom they know and love
55 would not be possible:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
57 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
58 THEREIN, That we do hereby honor and commend Mr. John D. Roberts
59 upon receiving the Legion of Honor for his valiant and heroic
60 service during World War II.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
62 furnished to Mr. Roberts and to the members of the Capitol Press
63 Corps.

