

By: Representatives Hall, Carpenter, Barton, To: Rules
Bell (21st), Boyd (19th), Byrd, Currie,
Deweese, Faulkner, Foster, Gibbs (36th),
Harris, Hawkins, Hines, Horan, Hulum,
Karriem, Keen, Ladner, Lamar, Morgan, Nelson,
Newman, Owen, Pigott, Rushing, Tubb, Tullos, Zuber

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 100

1 A RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND COMMENDING
2 THE LIVES AND LEGACIES OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 DEREK JOSHUA
3 ABBOTT AND CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 BRYAN ANDREW ZEMEK, OF THE
4 MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD, WHO WERE LOST IN THE LINE OF DUTY
5 WHILE CONDUCTING A ROUTINE TRAINING EXERCISE ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY
6 23, 2024, AND EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS
7 UPON THEIR PASSING.

8 WHEREAS, it is written in II Corinthians 4:17-18, "For our
9 light affliction, which is but for a moment, worked for us a far
10 more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at
11 the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:
12 for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which
13 are not seen are eternal," and as such, the immaculate author and
14 finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of
15 dearly beloved, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Derek Joshua Abbott and
16 Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Andrew Zemek, to rest eternally, as
17 they made life's final transition from earthly travailing to
18 heavenly reward, rendering great sorrow and loss to their families
19 and friends; and



20 WHEREAS, the communities of Fulton and Oxford, Mississippi,
21 endured the grievous loss of two wonderful friends, true public
22 servants and decorated members of the Mississippi Army National
23 Guard with the passing of Chief Warrant Officers Abbott and Zemek
24 on Friday, February 23, 2024, in service to the citizens of
25 Mississippi while conducting routine training flight as members of
26 Aviation Support Facility 2 headquartered in Tupelo, and there is
27 now a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our respects
28 to the memory of those who have been called to join that
29 innumerable heavenly caravan; and

30 WHEREAS, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Abbott, a Fulton resident
31 and combat veteran, born on February 14, 1982, who served in Iraq,
32 was assigned to the Delta Company of the 2nd Battalion, 151st
33 Lakota Medical Evacuation unit, serving as a maintenance test
34 pilot, and is survived by his wife of 18 years, Brandi Abbott;
35 their three children, Chandler Wood, Breanna Abbott, and Grayson
36 Abbott; exchange students, Sarah Mirshahidi and Pauline Schult;
37 mother, Mary (Roy) Savage; father, Danny Abbott; and brother,
38 Danny (Christi) Abbott, Jr.; and

39 WHEREAS, a great Soldier and Fallen Hero who has now been
40 released from earthly call of duty, Chief Warrant Officer 4
41 Abbott's awards include the Air Medal with Valor and numeral 2;
42 Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters; Army
43 Achievement Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal
44 with one campaign star; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal



45 with two bronze oak leaf clusters; the Combat Action Badge; the
46 Senior Army Aviator Badge; and many other decorations and state
47 awards; and

48 WHEREAS, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Zemek, an Oxford resident,
49 born in Tupelo on June 6, 1987, was assigned to the Alpha Company
50 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment, serving as an AH-64 Delta
51 Apache Standardization Instructor Pilot, and is survived by his
52 wife of three years, Robyn Zemek; their four children, Avery Sinn,
53 Ayden Zemek, Swayze Sinn and Logan Zemek; parents, Louis Zemek,
54 Sr., and Sally Zemek; and brothers, Louis (Anna) Zemek, Jr., Jaime
55 Zemek and Jason Zemek; and

56 WHEREAS, a great Soldier and Fallen Hero, who has now been
57 released from earthly call of duty, Chief Warrant Officer
58 4 Zemek's awards include the Army Commendation Medal with three
59 bronze oak leaf clusters; the Army Achievement Medal; the Army
60 Reserve Component Achievement Medal with two bronze oak leaf
61 clusters; the Senior Army Aviator Badge; and many other
62 decorations and state awards, including being a proud 2005
63 graduate of New Albany High School; and

64 WHEREAS, having extended themselves to persevere above and
65 beyond the call of duty, honor and loyalty to the United States,
66 which they so fervently held sacred throughout the performance of
67 their duties, these two Guardsmen embodied the very best of our
68 nation, bound by honor and committed to service within the
69 military for their country, giving up their family time, comfort,



70 and safety for their country, ultimately for all Americans to
71 enjoy their freedoms, safety and way of life; and

72 WHEREAS, officers and a gentleman who have laid down their
73 flags and staffs of battle to unite with the legions of Heaven's
74 guardians, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Abbott and Chief Warrant
75 Officer 4 Zemek will be sorely missed by those who experienced the
76 depth of their love, commitment and compassion for life and
77 pursuit of freedom for all, as they have valiantly earned their
78 rest to go fly with the Angels, and to rest high on that mountain
79 for their work on earth is now complete; and

80 WHEREAS, counted among Mississippi's heroes, committed to our
81 national and local safety and security, the State of Mississippi
82 shares the sentiment that to a country, a fallen officer means a
83 national loss; to a community, a fallen officer means a true hero;
84 to a child, spouse or parent, a fallen officer means a loved one
85 who will not be coming home; and

86 WHEREAS, we encourage the families to find solace from the
87 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their
88 beloved family member and be renewed in their faith that Chief
89 Warrant Officer 4 Abbott and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Zemek
90 fulfilled the purposes of their appointed time in adherence to the
91 commandment of II Timothy 4:7, by having "fought a good fight,
92 finishing their course and keeping the faith until the hour of
93 their departure was at hand"; and



94 WHEREAS, Mississippians understand the costs of conflict,
95 because we have paid homage to those we have lost in their effort
96 to broker the armistice of peaceful resolve, and it is with great
97 pride and humility that we recognize the heroic action of these
98 great Americans and Mississippians, as evidenced by the life and
99 merits of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Abbott and Chief Warrant Officer
100 4 Zemek, whose gift to this nation and state was the ultimate
101 sacrifice of life in order that peace and prosperity abound for
102 all citizens of the great State of Mississippi:

103 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
104 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
105 remember the gallant service and commend the life and personal
106 sacrifice of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Derek Joshua Abbott and Chief
107 Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Andrew Zemek of the Mississippi Army
108 National Guard, and extend deepest sympathy to their families,
109 friends and fellow comrades in service upon their passing.

110 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
111 furnished to the families of Chief Warrant Officer 4 Derek Joshua
112 Abbott, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bryan Andrew Zemek, the Adjutant
113 General of the Mississippi National Guard and to the members of
114 the Capitol Press Corps.

