

By: Representatives Formby, Frierson

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING SPECIALIST ROGER "BUBBA"  
2 WALTERS, JR., FOR HIS INVENTIVE PLAN FOR AND SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON  
3 THE PROTECTION OF OUR SOLDIERS IN IRAQ.

4 WHEREAS, Specialist Roger "Bubba" Walters, Jr., is a member  
5 of the Mississippi National Guard, A Company, 890th Engineering  
6 Battalion, based out of Picayune, Mississippi; and

7 WHEREAS, after a terrible improvised explosive devise (IED)  
8 attack on a convoy of the A Company, 890th Engineering Battalion,  
9 which seriously injured Specialist Carl Sampson, many soldiers  
10 felt a vulnerability and lack of safety in their unprotected  
11 vehicles; and

12 WHEREAS, with little materials and tools, Specialist Walters,  
13 a former welder and now carpenter at Stennis Space Center,  
14 fabricated a template of panels to be attached to the sides of  
15 vehicles and after successful testing of the panels on the  
16 vehicles to stop the penetration of AK-47 rounds fired, Specialist  
17 Walters was given permission to install the armor panels on  
18 several vehicles; and

19 WHEREAS, by December 15, 2003, every vehicle assigned to A  
20 Company had armor plating on the doors and other areas where  
21 troops ride, and as of February 29, 2004, only four of the 890th's  
22 vehicles have been hit by an IED with no serious injuries; and

23 WHEREAS, Specialist Walters credits A Company Commander,  
24 Captain Rick Weaver, and the help of Sergeants Ruben Sanderson,  
25 Chris Fazande, Dewan Watts and Specialists David Aaron Smith, Eric  
26 Stockstill, Jon Ashe, Robert Margerum, Shawn Smoot and Jeremy

27 Weir, with ensuring that the vehicles were equipped with the armor  
28 plating; and

29 WHEREAS, the inventive and dedicated work of Specialist  
30 Walters has already saved the lives of several individuals in Iraq  
31 and will continue to afford more protection to our soldiers; and

32 WHEREAS, Specialist Walters has been lovingly supported in  
33 all his patriotic endeavors by his family, including his wife,  
34 Lacie, and their son, Gavin; and

35 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature to recognize and  
36 commend outstanding Mississippians such as Specialist Walters, who  
37 has dedicated his life to serve his country, improving the quality  
38 of life for all Mississippians and Americans:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
40 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
41 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Specialist Roger "Bubba"  
42 Walters, Jr., a member of the Mississippi National Guard, A  
43 Company, 890th Engineering Battalion, based out of Picayune,  
44 Mississippi, for his inventive plan for and significant impact on  
45 the protection of our soldiers in Iraq.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
47 furnished to Specialist Roger "Bubba" Walters, Jr., and to the  
48 members of the Capitol Press Corps.