

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 105

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ALL MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL  
2 GUARD TROOPS SERVING THE UNITED STATES, BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND ON  
3 FOREIGN SOIL AND ENCOURAGING THE CITIZENS OF MISSISSIPPI TO  
4 SUPPORT AND CONTACT SERVICEMEN CURRENTLY DEPLOYED.

5 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature wishes to acknowledge  
6 the many sacrifices made by the thousands of members of the  
7 Mississippi National Guard and other military reserve  
8 organizations based in Mississippi in the war against terrorism  
9 that is being waged by the United States both at home and  
10 overseas; and

11 WHEREAS, Mississippi's citizens have always been more than  
12 willing to serve their country during times of conflict across the  
13 world, and many have given the ultimate sacrifice of their lives  
14 in times of war; and

15 WHEREAS, the United States Military is in the process of  
16 engaging in the war against terrorism both at home and overseas,  
17 which has included thousands of Mississippi Guardsmen; and

18 WHEREAS, the Mississippi National Guard, upon receiving only  
19 a few days' notice in many cases, has embarked upon both missions  
20 to secure and preserve peace and to protect the lives and  
21 interests of all Americans, thus exhibiting the high caliber and  
22 readiness of our state's troops; and

23 WHEREAS, most of these servicemen are "citizen soldiers" who  
24 have undergone extensive training through their respective  
25 National Guard units while maintaining a living and raising  
26 families of their own in the private world; and

27 WHEREAS, 485 members of Task Force Rifles, headquartered in  
28 McComb, Mississippi, and composed of soldiers from across the

29 State of Mississippi, were called to active service to serve  
30 abroad, and successfully completed a tour of duty in Bosnia and  
31 Herzegovina; and

32 WHEREAS, 83 members of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 20th Special  
33 Forces Group, headquartered in Elliot, Mississippi, were called to  
34 service abroad, and successfully completing a tour of duty  
35 defeating the Taliban regime in Afghanistan; and

36 WHEREAS, 109 members of the 114th Military Police Company,  
37 headquartered in Clinton, Mississippi, were called to active  
38 service abroad, successfully completing a tour of duty at  
39 Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and subsequently completing a follow-on tour  
40 at Fort Hood, Texas; and

41 WHEREAS, 17 members of the 220th Finance Detachment,  
42 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to service  
43 abroad, and successfully completing a tour of duty in Bosnia and  
44 Herzegovina; and

45 WHEREAS, 29 members of the 210th Finance Battalion and 19  
46 members of the 230th Finance Detachment, both headquartered in  
47 Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active service and  
48 successfully completed a tour of duty providing financial support  
49 at Fort Hood, Texas; and

50 WHEREAS, 45 members of the 31st Rear Operations Center,  
51 headquartered in Jackson, were called to active service to serve  
52 abroad, and successfully completed a tour of duty in Kuwait and  
53 Iraq; and

54 WHEREAS, 146 members of the 113th Military Police Company,  
55 headquartered in Brandon, Mississippi, were called to active  
56 service to serve abroad and successfully completed a tour of duty  
57 in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, becoming the most  
58 mobilized unit in the Mississippi Army National Guard over the  
59 past ten years; and

60 WHEREAS, 22 pilots of Company D, 159th Aviation,  
61 headquartered in Tupelo, Mississippi, were called to active

62 service to serve abroad, successfully completing several missions  
63 that include the operation which resulted in the deaths of Odai  
64 and Qusai Hussein; and

65 WHEREAS, 647 members of the 223rd Engineer Battalion,  
66 headquartered in West Point, Mississippi, with six other  
67 locations, including Aberdeen, Calhoun City, Bruce, Charleston,  
68 Webb and Clarksdale, were called to active duty to serve abroad,  
69 and successfully completed a tour of duty in Iraq while restoring  
70 critical services to the Iraqi people; and

71 WHEREAS, 191 members of the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special  
72 Forces Group, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called  
73 to active service to serve abroad, successfully conducting  
74 approximately 1,000 combat missions in Afghanistan resulting in  
75 the death or capture of more than 500 Al Qaeda operatives; and

76 WHEREAS, 17 members of Special Operations Detachment South,  
77 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active duty  
78 to serve abroad, and successfully completed their tour of duty  
79 overseas; and

80 WHEREAS, six members of Company K, 185th Aviation,  
81 headquartered at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and a detachment in  
82 Southaven were called to active service to serve abroad; and

83 WHEREAS, seven members of Company I, 185th Aviation,  
84 headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi, were called to active duty  
85 to serve abroad; and

86 WHEREAS, 170 members of the 1st Battalion, 204th Air Defense  
87 Artillery, headquartered in Newton, Mississippi, were called to  
88 active duty to protect the skies over our nation's capitol in  
89 Washington, D.C.; and

90 WHEREAS, 76 members of the 168th Engineer Group,  
91 headquartered in Vicksburg, Mississippi, were called to active  
92 duty to serve abroad in Iraq; and

93 WHEREAS, 650 members of the 890th Engineer Battalion,  
94 headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi, with seven other

95 locations, including Picayune, Pascagoula, Lumberton, Columbia,  
96 Wiggins, Purvis and Richton, were called to active service to  
97 serve abroad, and successfully completed a tour of duty in Iraq  
98 while restoring critical services to the Iraqi people; and

99 WHEREAS, 71 members of the 1108th Aviation Classification and  
100 Repair Activity Depot, headquartered in Gulfport, Mississippi,  
101 were called to active service to serve abroad, and successfully  
102 completed a tour of duty in Kuwait; and

103 WHEREAS, 182 members of the 367th Maintenance Company,  
104 headquartered in Philadelphia, Mississippi, were called to active  
105 duty to serve abroad, deploying and providing support for the  
106 newly formed Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Northern Iraq; and

107 WHEREAS, 125 members of the 114th Area Support Group,  
108 headquartered in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, were called to active  
109 service to serve abroad; and

110 WHEREAS, 58 members of the 298th Corps Support Battalion,  
111 headquartered in Philadelphia, Mississippi, were called to active  
112 service to serve abroad; and

113 WHEREAS, 24 members of the 1st Cavalry Division's Rear  
114 Operations Center, headquartered in Tupelo, Mississippi, were  
115 called to active service to serve abroad, becoming one of only six  
116 Army National Guard units nationwide directly affiliated with an  
117 active component division; and

118 WHEREAS, 57 members of the 112th Military Police Battalion,  
119 headquartered in Canton, Mississippi, were called to active  
120 service to serve abroad, and the battalion had previously received  
121 recognition for its distinguished service in Operation Desert  
122 Storm; and

123 WHEREAS, 24 members of the 114th Army Liaison Team,  
124 headquartered in Greenville, Mississippi, were called to active  
125 duty to serve abroad; and

126 WHEREAS, 143 members of Company G, 185th Aviation Group,  
127 headquartered in Meridian, Mississippi, were called to active

128 service to serve abroad, flying the Chinook helicopter, the Army's  
129 premier cargo aircraft; and

130 WHEREAS, 84 members of the 185th Aviation Group,  
131 headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active  
132 service to serve abroad, holding the distinction of commanding the  
133 largest National Guard Aviation Task Force ever deployed overseas;  
134 and

135 WHEREAS, 62 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard,  
136 255th Air Control Squadron, headquartered in Gulfport,  
137 Mississippi, were called to active service; and

138 WHEREAS, 500 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard,  
139 172nd Airlift Wing, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, were  
140 called to active service to serve abroad and successfully  
141 completed their missions overseas; and

142 WHEREAS, numerous members of the 183rd Aeromedical Evacuation  
143 Squadron, based in Jackson, Mississippi, were called to active  
144 service and successfully completed their patient evacuation  
145 missions in an exemplary manner; and

146 WHEREAS, 500 members of the Mississippi Air National Guard,  
147 186th Air Refueling Wing, headquartered in Meridian, Mississippi,  
148 were called to active service to serve abroad, and successfully  
149 completed their missions overseas; and

150 WHEREAS, numerous members of the Mississippi Air National  
151 Guard, 238th Air Support Operations Squadron and the 248th Air  
152 Control Squadron, based in Meridian, Mississippi, were called to  
153 active service to serve abroad, and successfully completed their  
154 missions in an exemplary manner; and

155 WHEREAS, Mississippi Air National Guard Security Flights from  
156 the 172nd Airlift Wing and the 186th Air Refueling Wing were  
157 called to active service to serve abroad, and successfully  
158 completed their overseas missions; and

159 WHEREAS, 75 soldiers made up of various units of the  
160 Mississippi National Guard were called to active duty in the State

161 of Mississippi with security missions at seven airports statewide,  
162 and successfully completed their missions; and

163 WHEREAS, 45 soldiers from units with the 1st Battalion, 155th  
164 Infantry, headquartered in McComb, Mississippi, were called to  
165 active duty in the State of Mississippi with security missions at  
166 five Mississippi ports as well as the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power  
167 Facility; and

168 WHEREAS, 177 soldiers, known as Task Force Falcon, made up of  
169 various units of the Mississippi Army National Guard, have been  
170 mobilized and are serving on active duty in the State of  
171 Mississippi with security missions at Columbus Air Force Base,  
172 Keesler Air Force Base and the Mississippi Air National Guard  
173 Bases in Jackson and Meridian; and

174 WHEREAS, the United States Army 1st Armored Division, Old  
175 Ironsides, which is composed of several Mississippi members, were  
176 called to active service to serve abroad, successfully completing  
177 a tour of duty in Germany, and subsequently engaging in a  
178 follow-on-tour in Baghdad; and

179 WHEREAS, since September 11, 2001, more than 5,000 soldiers  
180 and airmen of the Mississippi National Guard have been called to  
181 active service in defense of our nation's freedom, constituting  
182 the largest overseas deployment of the Mississippi National Guard  
183 since the Korean War; and

184 WHEREAS, dedication of the many men and women of the  
185 Mississippi National Guard in providing valuable assistance to the  
186 United States Military has helped instill confidence in the  
187 general public that they are committed to this nation's security;  
188 and

189 WHEREAS, this Legislature seeks to make Mississippi citizens  
190 aware that they too can show support for our troops by sending  
191 messages of encouragement and letters to our troops by going  
192 online to the following websites:

193 [www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html](http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html); [www.operationuplink.org](http://www.operationuplink.org);

194 [www.anyservicemember.org](http://www.anyservicemember.org); [www.operationdearabby.net](http://www.operationdearabby.net);  
195 [www.messages@estripes.com](mailto:www.messages@estripes.com); [www.usometrodc.org/care.htm](http://www.usometrodc.org/care.htm);  
196 [www.opsos.org](http://www.opsos.org); [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org); [www.adoptaplatoon.org](http://www.adoptaplatoon.org);  
197 [www.usocares.org/home.html](http://www.usocares.org/home.html) and  
198 [www.army.mil/operations/iraq/faq/html](http://www.army.mil/operations/iraq/faq/html); and

199 WHEREAS, these organizations, through their websites, provide  
200 the convenience and service of supplying troops with donated  
201 calling cards to contact family and friends back home, encouraging  
202 web-messages, letters, virtual thank you cards, emails and other  
203 electronic greetings; and

204 WHEREAS, numerous Mississippi churches and other civic and  
205 social groups have expressed their support for our troops by  
206 sponsoring benefits and homecoming activities in addition to being  
207 Good Samaritans by raising money and other items for the troops  
208 and their families left behind; and

209 WHEREAS, Governor Haley Barbour, Commander in Chief, along  
210 with Adjutant General Major General Harold Cross, whose leadership  
211 and dedication is known throughout the military of the United  
212 States, continues to guide and command units of the Mississippi  
213 National Guard in mobilizations and deployments, and through state  
214 emergencies including hurricanes, tropical storms, tornadoes and  
215 security at critical sites in the State of Mississippi; and

216 WHEREAS, the Mississippi House of Representatives finds it  
217 most appropriate to recognize and commend the diligence of these  
218 outstanding Mississippians for the devotion to their state and  
219 nation to secure and insure peace and to preserve and protect  
220 freedom for all:

221 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
222 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
223 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend all Mississippi National Guard  
224 personnel serving the United States both domestically and on  
225 foreign soil and encourage the citizens of Mississippi to support  
226 and contact the servicemen currently deployed.

227 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
228 furnished to the commanding officers of each of the aforementioned  
229 organizations, the Adjutant General of the Mississippi National  
230 Guard and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.