

By: Senator(s) Albritton, Lee
(47th), Browning, Butler,
Carmichael, Clarke, Davis,
Dearing, Flowers, Frazier,
Harvey, Hewes, Hyde-Smith,
Jackson (15th), Kirby, Lee
(35th), Little, Mettetal,
Nunnelee, Posey, Thames, Thomas,
Walls, White, Wilemon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 508

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT LARRY RICHARD ARNOLD, SR., OF
3 CARRIERE, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS A COMBAT CASUALTY IN IRAQ ON
4 SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2005, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE
5 LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, Sergeant Larry Richard Arnold, Sr., 46, of Carriere,
7 Mississippi, was one of two Mississippi soldiers killed on
8 Saturday, June 11, 2005, when a roadside bomb exploded near their
9 vehicle near Owesat Village outside of Amiriyah, 25 miles south of
10 Baghdad, Iraq; and

11 WHEREAS, carried by a military honor guard, he came home to
12 his community and family, and was buried Wednesday, June 22, 2005,
13 at Mill Creek Cemetery, Carriere, Mississippi, with full military
14 honors; and

15 WHEREAS, Sergeant Arnold served with the Mississippi National
16 Guard's 155 Brigade Combat Team, assigned to Company B, 150th
17 Combat Engineer Battalion in Lucedale, Mississippi. His son,
18 Robert, 21, served alongside his father in the same company, and
19 was home on leave when the family received the news of his death.
20 Sergeant Arnold had served 8-1/2 years in the United States Army
21 and joined the Mississippi National Guard in 1991 serving 14
22 years. He was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and resided in
23 Carriere with his wife of 28 years. An electrician by trade,
24 Larry Arnold made the National Guard his full-time job in 2002;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the 155th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, known as
27 "Dixie Thunder," includes 3,500 soldiers from Mississippi and
28 others from Vermont and Arkansas. The 155th, which is attached to

29 the II Marine Expeditionary Force, operates in the Karbala, Najaf
30 and Babil provinces of Iraq. The soldiers trained at Camp Shelby
31 before being deployed to Iraq in January 2004. The deaths of
32 these two brave guardsman brings the total in the 155th Brigade to
33 at least 12 in 2005. Since military operations in Afghanistan and
34 Iraq began, 35 people with Mississippi ties have died. The
35 Mississippi National Guard has sustained the fourth-highest number
36 of casualties of any state; and

37 WHEREAS, Melinda Arnold remembers her husband as "a caring
38 and dedicated soldier." The couple met on a blind date in March
39 1977, and were married in August of that year; and

40 WHEREAS, during his funeral, Sergeant Arnold was awarded the
41 Bronze Star, the Mississippi Medal of Valor and the Purple Heart
42 posthumously by Brigadier General Ben Gaston, Mississippi National
43 Guard; and

44 WHEREAS, his family received an outpouring of grief and
45 support from across the state, demonstrating the community's
46 acknowledgment of the sacrifice made by the Mississippi National
47 Guard; and

48 WHEREAS, Larry Arnold is survived by his wife of 28 years,
49 Melinda Arnold of Carriere; three sons, Larry Arnold, Jr., Robert
50 Arnold and Howard James Arnold, all of Carriere; his mother, Betty
51 Mackey of Columbia, Missouri; one brother, Garry Arnold of
52 Columbia, Missouri; five sisters, Peggy Alford of Norwood, Ohio,
53 Beverly Hicks of Harrisonville, Missouri, Janet Brandes of Simi
54 Valley, California, Joann Arnold of Manilla, Arkansas, and Debbie
55 Arnold of Bentonville, Arkansas; one grandson, Anthony Arnold of
56 Carriere; one granddaughter, Heather Arnold of Carriere; 12 nieces
57 and 14 nephews; 10 great-nieces and 11 great-nephews; and

58 WHEREAS, to a country, a fallen soldier means a national
59 loss; to a community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a
60 parent, a fallen soldier means a son who won't be coming home.
61 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have

62 paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility
63 that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and
64 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it
65 today:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
67 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
68 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
69 Sergeant Larry Richard Arnold, Sr., of Carriere, Mississippi, who
70 was killed in action in Iraq on Saturday, June 11, 2005, and
71 extend the thoughts and prayers of the Legislature to his family
72 and our sorrow on his passing.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
74 the surviving family of Sergeant Arnold and be made available to
75 members of the Capitol Press Corps.