

By: Senator(s) Gollott, Dawkins, Hewes,
Albritton, Browning, Burton, Butler,
Carmichael, Chaney, Clarke, Davis, Frazier,
Harden, Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th), Jackson
(15th), King, Kirby, Lee (35th), Little,
Mettetal, Michel, Morgan, Posey, Robertson,
Simmons, Thames, Thomas

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 522

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND
2 COMMENDING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LANCE CORPORAL
3 ROGER WAYNE DEEDS OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION
4 IN IRAQ ON NOVEMBER 16, 2005, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE
5 LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Roger
7 Wayne Deeds, 24, of Goldsboro, North Carolina, a graduate of
8 Biloxi High School, was killed in action on Wednesday, November
9 16, 2005, along with three other Marines while conducting combat
10 operations during Operation Steel Curtain in Ubaydi, Iraq; and

11 WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Deeds was assigned to Battalion
12 Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 13th Marine
13 Expeditionary Unit, I Marine Expeditionary Force, from Camp
14 Pendleton, California, attached to the 2nd Marine Division, II
15 Marine Expeditionary Force; and

16 WHEREAS, carried by a Marine Honor Guard, he returned to his
17 former home and to his wife, Sarah; daughter, Mikaleigh, and
18 16-month old son, Alaric; family; and to his community. He was
19 buried on Saturday, November 26, 2005, at Biloxi National Cemetery
20 with full military honors; during the funeral he was awarded the
21 Navy Cross; and

22 WHEREAS, Corporal Deeds came from a career military family;
23 he met his wife while the two were students at Biloxi High School
24 and were working at the Base Exchange at Keesler Air Force Base;
25 he graduated from Biloxi High School in 2000, a member of the
26 JROTC; and

27 WHEREAS, Roger decided to join the Marines in 2003; the
28 couple was married in 2004, and Corporal Deeds was sent to Iraq

29 for his first tour of duty in June 2004; he was injured during
30 this first tour when his convoy was hit by a roadside bomb, and he
31 stayed in Iraq to recuperate from his wounds; and

32 WHEREAS, in Corporal Deeds' two years in the Marine Corps,
33 his awards included the Purple Heart, the National Defense Service
34 Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal
35 and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon; and

36 WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, at
37 least 40 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have died in
38 action; and

39 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Sarah French Deeds;
40 daughter, Mikaleigh; son, Alaric; his father, Scott Deeds; mother,
41 Joyce Deeds; a sister, Gina McKnight; and many close friends; and

42 WHEREAS, Roger Deeds was a loving father who is counted among
43 America's heroes, committed to our nation's safety and security.
44 To a country, a fallen soldier means a national loss; to a
45 community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a parent, a
46 fallen soldier means a son who won't be coming home.

47 Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have
48 paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility
49 that we recognize the heroic action of this great American and
50 Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it
51 today:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
53 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
54 we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of
55 United States Marine Lance Corporal Roger Wayne Deeds of Biloxi,
56 Mississippi, who was killed in action in Iraq on Wednesday,
57 November 16, 2005, and extend the thoughts and prayers of the
58 Legislature to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
60 the surviving family of Corporal Deeds and be made available to
61 members of the Capitol Press Corps.