MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2009

By: Senator(s) Tollison, Mettetal, Blount, Burton, Butler, Carmichael, Davis (36th), Dearing, Fillingane, Frazier, Gollott, Gordon, Hewes, Horhn, Jackson (11th), King, Lee (47th), Lee (35th), Montgomery, Simmons, Stone, Walls, Wilemon, Yancey, Chassaniol, Jackson (32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 506

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE GALLANT SERVICE AND COMMENDING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES ARMY AIRBORNE DIVISION 1ST LIEUTENANT DONALD "DONNIE" CLAYTON CARWILE OF OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS LOST IN ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2008, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, United States Army 101st Airborne Division 1st Lieutenant Donald "Donnie" Clayton Carwile, age 29, of Oxford, Mississippi, was lost in action on Friday, August 15, 2008, in Afghanistan when his vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb and attacked by insurgents. The officer was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, 1st Lt. Carwile served as a platoon leader in his unit and was actively serving in Operation Enduring Freedom. Donnie was a graduate of Lafayette High School and the University of Mississippi where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He was a graduate of the Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Academy and went on to serve as a Patrol Officer for both Batesville and Oxford Police Departments. He later graduated and received his commission from Officer Candidate School (OCS). He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Infantry Officer Basic Course, Basic Officer Leadership Course, Mechanized Infantry Leaders Course and the Malaysian Tracker School; and

WHEREAS, during 1st Lt. Carwile's military career, he earned the following awards: Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon,

Overseas Service Ribbon and NATO Medal-Afghanistan. In addition to his many awards, 1st Lt. Carwile earned the coveted Combat Infantryman Badge, Airborne Badge and Air Assault Badge. Donnie also enjoyed hunting and was an avid runner; and

WHEREAS, his hometown is grieving the loss of this young hero. Carried by an Army Honor Guard, he returned to the family he loved and to his hometown, and was buried on Saturday, August 23, 2008, with full military honors. During the funeral, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart and the Mississippi Medal of Honor, and in honor of Lt. Carwile's service and sacrifice to his country, the flag of the United States of America was flown at half staff at the public buildings of Oxford; and

WHEREAS, 1st Lt. Carwile is survived by his wife, Jennifer Gail Carwile; two daughters, Elizabeth Reese Carwile and Avery Claire Carwile all of Ft. Campbell, Kentucky; his father, Dennis Ray (Judy) Carwile of Abbeville, Mississippi; his mother, Betina Ann Brigance Henne of Melbourne, Florida; two sisters, Misty Morningstar of Coleman, Florida, and Hailey (Doug) Boggs of Oxford, Mississippi; one brother, William Edward Carwile of Oxford; one step-brother, James Glenn Fiew of Oxford; and a half brother, Joshua Jones Carwile of Texas; and

WHEREAS, since operations began in Iraq and Afghanistan, at least 65 soldiers or sailors with Mississippi ties have died in action; and

WHEREAS, Donnie Carwile was a loving son and husband who is counted among America's heroes, committed to our nation's safety and security. To a country, a fallen soldier means a national loss; to a community, a fallen soldier means a true hero; to a spouse or parent, a fallen soldier means a husband or son who won't be coming home. Mississippians understand the costs of conflict, because we have paid them in the past, and it is with great pride and humility that we recognize the heroic action of

this great American and Mississippian, who was the guardian of civilization as we know it today:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby remember the gallant service and commend the life of United States Army Airborne Division 1st Lieutenant Donald "Donnie" Clayton Carwile of Oxford, Mississippi, who was lost in action in Afghanistan on Friday, August 15, 2008, and extend the thoughts and prayers of a grateful State to his family and our sorrow on his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to the surviving family of Lieutenant Carwile and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.