

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 504 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, McCALL, M. O'BRIEN, GEORGE, WANSACZ, BASTIAN, SAINATO, RUBLEY, ROEBUCK, CALTAGIRONE, MANN, FLECK, FAIRCHILD, YOUNGBLOOD, ROAE, REICHLEY, BENNINGHOFF, GALLOWAY, MANTZ, MARKOSEK, BEAR, ROSS, BAKER, BISHOP, SANTONI, MICOZZIE, BARRAR, McGEEHAN, MILNE, GIBBONS, HELM, MAJOR, WOJNAROSKI, FABRIZIO, BOBACK, EVERETT, MAHONEY, GINGRICH, READSHAW, MUSTIO, WHEATLEY, SCHRODER, RAYMOND, NAILOR, D. EVANS, BOYD, ELLIS, BRENNAN, GODSHALL, MAHER, BROOKS, DALLY, MACKERETH, HENNESSEY, O'NEILL, RAPP, CAUSER, LENTZ, GRUCELA, BUXTON, CLYMER, CAPPELLI, CRUZ, HESS, SHIMKUS, THOMAS, JOSEPHS, HARPER, SURRA, WATSON, PARKER, KULA, STURLA, PERRY, KING, HANNA, K. SMITH, PALLONE, HERSHEY, R. TAYLOR, PETRI, R. STEVENSON, HARHART, JAMES, SWANGER, TANGRETTI, M. KELLER, M. SMITH, PICKETT, RAMALEY, KORTZ, PETRONE, SONNEY, SOLOBAY, PHILLIPS AND STABACK, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and extending condolences for the supreme
2 sacrifice of United States Navy Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy,
3 a Navy SEAL who tragically lost his life in service to our
4 country in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, on June 28, 2005.

5 WHEREAS, United States Navy Lieutenant Michael Murphy was the
6 beloved son of Maureen and Dan Murphy, and brother of John
7 Murphy; and

8 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy, fondly referred to by friends and family
9 as "Murph," was born on May 7, 1976, in Smithtown, New York, and
10 grew up in the town of Patchogue, New York, on Long Island; and

11 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy attended The Pennsylvania State
12 University, where he was an exceptional all-around athlete and

1 student, graduating with honors in 1998 with degrees in
2 political science and psychology; and

3 WHEREAS, Following graduation, he was accepted to several law
4 schools, but instead changed course to attend SEAL mentoring
5 sessions at the United States Merchant Marine Academy with his
6 sights on becoming a Navy SEAL; and

7 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy accepted an appointment to the Navy's
8 Officer Candidate School in September 2000; and

9 WHEREAS, In early 2005 Lt. Murphy was assigned to SEAL
10 Delivery Vehicle Team ONE as assistant officer-in-charge of ALFA
11 Platoon and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation
12 Enduring Freedom; and

13 WHEREAS, On June 28, 2005, Lt. Murphy was the officer-in-
14 charge of a four-man SEAL element in support of Operation Red
15 Wing, tasked with finding a key anticoalition militia commander
16 near Asadabad, Afghanistan; and

17 WHEREAS, Shortly after entering the area, the SEALs were
18 spotted, and it is believed their location was reported to enemy
19 Taliban forces; and

20 WHEREAS, A fierce gun battle ensued on the steep face of the
21 mountain between the SEALs and a much larger enemy force, and
22 despite the intensity of the firefight, Lt. Murphy, suffering
23 grave gunshot wounds himself, risked his own life to save the
24 lives of his men; and

25 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy, intent on making radio contact with
26 headquarters to request reinforcements, but realizing this would
27 be impossible in the extreme terrain where they were fighting,
28 unhesitatingly and with complete disregard for his own life
29 moved into the open, where he could gain a better position to
30 transmit a call to get help for his men; and

1 WHEREAS, When Lt. Murphy moved away from the protective
2 mountain rocks, he made himself extremely vulnerable to enemy
3 gunfire, and his deliberate and heroic act deprived him of cover
4 and made him a target for the enemy; and

5 WHEREAS, While continuing to be fired upon, Lt. Murphy made
6 contact with the SOF Quick Reaction Force at Bagram Air Base and
7 requested assistance, calmly providing his unit's location and
8 the size of the enemy force while requesting immediate support
9 for his team; and

10 WHEREAS, At one point, he was shot in the back, causing him
11 to drop the transmitter, but Lt. Murphy picked it back up,
12 completed the call and continued firing at the enemy who was
13 closing in; and

14 WHEREAS, Severely wounded, Lt. Murphy returned to his cover
15 position with his men and continued the battle; and

16 WHEREAS, By his undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit
17 and inspirational devotion to his men in the face of certain
18 death, Lt. Murphy was able to relay the position of his unit, an
19 act that ultimately led to the rescue of one of his men and the
20 recovery of the remains of the three who were killed in the
21 battle; and

22 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy was awarded the United States Medal of
23 Honor, is the first recipient of the Medal of Honor for combat
24 heroism in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom,
25 and is the recipient of the first Medal of Honor awarded to a
26 sailor since the Vietnam Conflict; and

27 WHEREAS, Lt. Murphy was also awarded the Purple Heart, Combat
28 Action Ribbon, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy
29 and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign
30 Ribbon and the National Defense Service Medal; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor the life
2 and extend condolences for the supreme sacrifice of United
3 States Navy Lieutenant Michael P. Murphy, who died on June 28,
4 2005, in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, while courageously serving
5 his country.