

Senate Resolution 576

By: Senator Johnson of the 1st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Landings Military Family Relief Fund and the Landings
2 community; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund was established in 2007, when
4 several residents of the Landings subdivision in Savannah, Georgia, were inspired to help
5 military families and soldiers in their times of personal struggle; and

6 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Landings Military Family Relief Fund is to provide financial
7 grants, not loans, to military families who are unable to find financial assistance in the
8 existing military relief programs; and

9 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund was established through an
10 agreement with the Savannah Chapter of the American Red Cross, creating a restricted fund
11 that is used only to meet special emergency needs of military families, without administration
12 costs taken from the fund, allowing for 100 percent of donations to go directly to the
13 families; and

14 WHEREAS, intended to help alleviate emergency situations which can arise for military
15 families, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund provides financial assistance within a 24
16 hour period to military families to help pay for basic living expenses, emergency travel,
17 memorial costs, or home and car repairs; and

18 WHEREAS, in order to receive assistance from the Landings Military Family Relief Fund,
19 a military family simply places a request through the normal process with the military, and
20 once it is determined that the military will be unable to assist the family, the request is
21 forwarded to the Red Cross and checked for conformance to guidelines before dispersing
22 from the Landings Military Family Relief Fund; and

23 WHEREAS, the most common emergency aid request comes from newly enlisted military
24 members in their mid or early twenties who are married with at least two young children who
25 need assistance with basic living expenses; and

26 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund has been instrumental in providing
27 alternative options for sources of aid for the nearly 26,000 troops in the Savannah area and
28 their families; and

29 WHEREAS, since its creation, the Fund has raised over \$307,000.00 and given 234 grants
30 to families in need, with 99 percent of the donations coming from within the Landings
31 community; and

32 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund has assisted soldiers in returning to
33 the states to be present for a family member's emergency surgery or attend funeral services
34 and has assisted in such matters as emergency car repair costs so that soldiers have one less
35 thing to worry about when they are deployed; and

36 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund is the first of its kind and is inspiring
37 the creation of similar funds around the country; and

38 WHEREAS, the Landings Military Family Relief Fund and the members of the Landings
39 community have demonstrated that, with determination and dedication, what seems
40 impossible can be achieved, and their support of the nation's guardians of freedom and their
41 families is worthy of recognition.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
43 commend the Landings community for their remarkable support of military families,
44 recognize the outstanding service provided by the Landings Military Family Relief Fund and
45 the Savannah Chapter of the American Red Cross, and extend their most sincere gratitude
46 for assisting members of the United States military and their families.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
48 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Landings Military Family Relief
49 Fund and the Savannah Chapter of the American Red Cross.