

## House Resolution 440

By: Representatives Rogers of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Mills of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, and Collins of the 27<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Staff Sergeant John Michael DeLong; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, our nation's security continues to rely on patriotic men and women who put  
4 their personal lives on hold in order to place themselves in harm's way to protect the  
5 freedoms that all United States citizens cherish; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
7 with the untimely passing of Staff Sergeant John Michael DeLong on May 30, 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant DeLong was a beloved son of Judith Anderson DeLong and the  
9 late Mike DeLong and brother of Meg and Mike McPeek; and

10 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United  
11 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans as a member of  
12 the 82nd Airborne Division and B Company 4th Combat Support Battalion; and

13 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant DeLong completed a tour of duty in Iraq and attended Warrior  
14 Leader Course, Combat Lifesaver Course, Airborne School, and Air Assault School; and

15 WHEREAS, for his selfless service to this nation Staff Sergeant DeLong received a Bronze  
16 Star Medal, an Army Commendation Medal, three Army Achievement Medals, an Army  
17 Good Conduct Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, an Iraq Campaign Medal, a Global  
18 War on Terrorism Service Medal, a Humanitarian Service Medal, a Non-Commissioned  
19 Officer Professional Development Ribbon, an Army Service Ribbon, an Overseas Service  
20 Ribbon, a Parachute Badge, a Drivers/Mechanics Badge, and an Air Assault Badge; and

21 WHEREAS, in addition to his mother, sister, and brother-in-law, Staff Sergeant DeLong  
22 leaves behind many who will cherish his memory, including his aunts and uncles Bucky and

23 Jessica Anderson, Greg Anderson and Helen Samuels, Marilyn DeLong Neely, Ann and  
24 Skipper Fuller; his great aunt and uncle, JoAnne and Bill Vaughan; his great aunt, Nancy  
25 Taylor; and his beloved dog, Grace; and

26 WHEREAS, the untimely passing of this highly decorated American hero leaves an  
27 unfillable void in the hearts and lives of his family and friends; and

28 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant DeLong embodied the spirit of service, willing to find meaning  
29 in something greater than himself and serving as a guardian of this nation's freedom, and it  
30 is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and  
31 distinguished American be recognized appropriately.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body express their deepest and most sincere regret at the passing of Staff  
34 Sergeant John Michael DeLong; commend his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated  
35 public service to the citizens of his country; and extend to his family their most profound  
36 appreciation for all members of the United States military who stand ever ready to lay the  
37 ultimate sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
39 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Staff Sergeant  
40 John Michael DeLong.