

## 6/20/2006 House Passes Moran Resolution Commending Patriot Guard Riders

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Originating in Kansas, Group Shields Military Families from Protesters at Funerals

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The House of Representatives today unanimously passed a resolution introduced by Congressman Jerry Moran to commend Patriot Guard Riders for shielding military families from protesters at funerals. The resolution expresses the U.S. House of Representatives' deepest appreciation to this nationwide group of volunteers who protect mourning families and preserve the memory of our nation's fallen heroes.

"This resolution tells the positive side of an ugly story," Moran said. "Kansans first took action against protesters at funerals, and now thousands of volunteers from across the country are working to preserve the dignity of military services and allow families and friends the peaceful time of mourning they deserve. I am proud to recognize the courage and compassion of these patriots."

This movement began in 2005 when American Legion Riders from Mulvane, Kansas, responded to protesters disrupting funerals of service members. Calling themselves the "Patriot Guard" and appearing at the request of families, these Kansas motorcycle riders organized supporters to peacefully wave American flags and serve as a barrier between families and picketers. This movement led to the formation of a nationwide network of tens of thousands of members - including veterans and non-veterans, riders and non-riders - known as the "Patriot Guard Riders." The mission of the Patriot Guard Riders is to attend funeral services of fallen service members to show their respect and to shield families from interruptions created by protesters.

More than 50 Members joined Moran in sponsoring this resolution, including Representatives Todd Tiahrt, Jim Ryun and Dennis Moore of the Kansas delegation.

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