

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEBAS, ARMES, AND ROY

A RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Sergeant Joseph A. Richard III, United States Army, of Lafayette, who was killed in action in Iraq.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Sergeant Joseph A. Richard III, who was killed on Monday, April 14, 2008, at the age of twenty-seven, while serving his country in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Richard was a combat engineer and noncommissioned officer assigned to the 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Fort Polk; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Richard was killed in Baghdad during an improvised explosive device attack while on patrol; and

WHEREAS, a recipient of the Purple Heart, Sergeant Richard, who joined the Army in January of 2003, was on his third tour of duty in Iraq, previously having been deployed from May of 2003 until April of 2004 and again from December of 2005 until November of 2006; and

WHEREAS, the youngest child of Joseph and Elaine Richard, Sergeant Richard was a graduate of Grand Prairie Elementary School and Sacred Heart of Ville Platte and attended the University of Louisiana at Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Richard is survived by his wife, Monique, his parents, and other relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, the death of Sergeant Richard leaves an unspeakable emptiness in the hearts of his family members and friends, who may find comfort in the knowledge that he lived his life heroically and according to deeply held principles and that his legacy will continue to be an inspiration to others; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Richard also will be mourned and sorely missed by those who had the honor of serving with him and who will always remember him as a selfless soldier and a cherished friend; and

WHEREAS, the actions of Sergeant Richard upheld the highest traditions of the United States Army and brought honor to himself, his family, his friends, his state, and this nation; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Richard performed his duties in an outstanding fashion, and it is only fitting to pay tribute to him for his extraordinary service and ultimate sacrifice for his country.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its most sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Sergeant Joseph A. Richard III, United States Army, of Lafayette; does hereby recognize the pride that he will forever bring to his family, his friends, his fellow soldiers, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America; and does hereby acknowledge with profound gratitude the heroic deeds of this brave gentleman who gave his life for the cause of freedom and liberty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Sergeant Joseph A. Richard III.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES