

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 127

BY SENATOR PERRY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses the condolences of the Senate of the Louisiana Legislature on the death of Army National Guard Sergeant Mark C. Palmateer.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the  
3 family of Army National Guard Sergeant Mark C. Palmateer on his death in ground  
4 combat action in Operation Enduring Freedom.

5 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer was a native of Hughsville, New York, growing up as  
6 one of nine children; and

7 WHEREAS, this large and loving family remained very close, despite the fact that  
8 some of the siblings would move and settle as far from home as Louisiana; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2001, Sgt. Palmateer had a good job with Dunmore Corporation in  
10 Brewster, New York, and considered by his boss, Terry Jones, to be an outstanding  
11 employee and loved by everyone; and

12 WHEREAS, a deeply patriotic man, Sgt. Palmateer was forever changed and  
13 reshaped by September 11th's terrorists' attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C.;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, after some time of reflection and counseling with his family, Sgt.  
16 Palmateer enlisted in the Army National Guard at the age of 33 with a passion to serve his  
17 country in its fight against terrorism and in the protection of its homeland; and

18 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer received intensive training with the equipment and

1 weapons that he knew he must master in order to accomplish the high risk missions that he  
2 and his unit had been tasked; and

3 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer and his unit did deploy to Afghanistan and participate  
4 in its mission to perform reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition in the rugged  
5 mountains of northeast Afghanistan; and

6 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer and his men of the 2nd Squadron, 101st Calvary  
7 Regiment were on such mission June 26, 2008, near Forward Operating Base Shank, when  
8 they were engaged by a determined enemy force, using rocket propelled grenades,  
9 improvised explosive devices, and heavy machine gun fire in the furious firefight that  
10 followed; and

11 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer showed gallantry and courage in his leadership of his  
12 men and fought bravely, but he and Sergeant First Class Joseph McKay were both mortally  
13 wounded in the action; and

14 WHEREAS, although Sgt. Palmateer was lost in the smoke, dust, and gunpowder of  
15 the battle, he will live on in the hearts and minds of a Louisiana family that loved him, was  
16 very proud of him, and will always insure his life is honored; and

17 WHEREAS, Sgt. Palmateer's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal,  
18 the Purple Heart, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on  
19 Terrorism Service Medal, the Afghanistan Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign  
20 Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Combat Action Badge.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
22 does hereby express its sincere and most profound condolences to the family of Army  
23 National Guard Sergeant Mark Palmateer for their immeasurable loss and his brave service  
24 and sacrifice for his country.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sgt,  
26 Palmateer's sister, Cathy Roule, and his daughter, Stephanie.

