

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY SENATOR PERRY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses the condolences of the Louisiana Senate on the death of U.S. Naval Aviation Boatswain's Mate Matthew Chialastri.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the
3 family of U.S. Naval Aviation Boatswain's Mate Matthew Chialastri upon his death
4 in a Navy plane crash in the Philippine Sea.

5 WHEREAS, Matthew Chialastri was a native of Baton Rouge and a 2013 graduate
6 of Woodlawn High School where he was the valedictorian of his class; and

7 WHEREAS, Matthew Chialastri was a member of the U.S. Army Junior Reserve
8 Officers Training Corps at Woodlawn High School for two years, where he was honored as
9 the East Baton Rouge Parish Cadet of the Year; and

10 WHEREAS, Matthew Chialastri was considered by fellow program members to be
11 a true and natural leader in JROTC as the commander of the program's color guard and the
12 various drill activities; and

13 WHEREAS, Matthew enlisted in the U.S. Navy on June 25, 2014, and started his
14 basic training at the Recruit Training Command before beginning his active duty career
15 aboard the USS AMERICA where he served from December 1, 2015, until October 1, 2017;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri's duty stations included Patrol Squadron Thirty in
18 Jacksonville, Florida, and the Center for Security Forces Detachment Kittery Point in

1 Portsmouth, New Hampshire; and

2 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri arrived at Commander Fleet Activities, Yokusuka,
3 Japan, and checked into Ronald Reagan Ranch on Nov. 5, 2017, to begin his preparations
4 to join the USS Ronald Reagan already underway; and

5 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri was aboard a C-2A Greyhound transport aircraft on
6 November 22, 2017, headed for the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier when the plane
7 crashed in the Philippine Sea; and

8 WHEREAS, while a massive search effort was successful in rescuing eight members
9 of the 11 crew members on board, Airman Chialastri and two others could not be found; and

10 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri and the two other sailors lost in the crash were
11 honored with a memorial service aboard the USS Ronald Reagan at sea where they were
12 eulogized by Captain Buzzy Donnelly the commanding officer of the USS Ronald Reagan
13 and remembered by fellow crew members; and

14 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri's awards and decorations include the National
15 Defense Service Medal and the Navy Battle "E" Ribbon; and

16 WHEREAS, Airman Chialastri brought great honor to the U.S. Navy, to those he
17 served with, and to himself, for his inspirational leadership, dedication, and the ultimate
18 sacrifice he made in the performance of his duties.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
20 does hereby extend its most profound and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of
21 Airman Matthew Chialastri for his outstanding service to his country and the immeasurable
22 sacrifices he made.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24 family of U.S. Naval Aviation Boatswain's Mate Matthew Chialastri.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.
