

Regular Session, 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Staff Sergeant Toby W. Mallet.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of
3 Louisiana to the family of United States Army Staff Sergeant Toby W. Mallet upon
4 the first anniversary of his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

5 WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and most profound sorrow that the Senate
6 now marks the first anniversary of the tragic death in combat of Staff Sergeant Toby W.
7 Mallet; and

8 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet was a native of Kaplan and a 1995 graduate of
9 Kaplan High School and began his nine-years of military service shortly thereafter when he
10 enlisted in the United States Army; and

11 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Field
12 Artillery Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, stationed in Schweinfurt, Germany, where he
13 served as a field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist; and

14 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet and his unit were subsequently deployed to the
15 Iraqi Theater of Operations and began running operations out of Baghdad, where he served
16 with distinction and dedication to accomplishing their mission of eliminating terrorist
17 strongholds and bringing order to a highly unstable region; and

18 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet, despite being a husband and father of three

1 children, with another child on the way, was known to always place the needs of his country
2 and his men before his own, and had conducted himself by the highest military standards
3 while accomplishing his unit's mission, exhibiting bravery and uncommon valor in the face
4 of daily danger; and

5 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet had just returned one week earlier from a hardship
6 trip home to visit his wife who had just given birth to a fourth child, a newborn son, when
7 he was given the mission of conducting a mounted patrol in Baghdad; and

8 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet was 26 years old and it was Good Friday as he
9 was conducting his mission of eliminating terrorist strongholds within the city when the
10 Bradley fighting vehicle in which he was traveling was attacked by a large, heavily-armed
11 enemy force and he was mortally wounded when the vehicle was struck and destroyed by
12 a rocket-propelled grenade; and

13 WHEREAS, the loss of Staff Sergeant Mallet was almost more than his family and
14 friends could endure, his ultimate sacrifice for his country has made the citizens of this state
15 and his community rally in support of his gallant efforts in the war on terror and the
16 liberation of Iraq; and

17 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Mallet will be forever remembered by his family, friends,
18 and fellow soldiers as a dedicated soldier and his sacrifice serves as a reminder that freedom
19 is never free and Americans may have to fight to protect the freedoms and liberties that all
20 its citizens now enjoy.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
22 does hereby express a profound sense of loss and sends its heartfelt condolences from a
23 grateful state and nation to the family of United States Army Staff Sergeant Toby W. Mallot.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25 wife, Saskia, and the parents, Linda Baker and Ron Mallet, of Staff Sergeant Mallet.

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

DIGEST

Expresses condolences upon the first anniversary of the death of U.S. Army Staff Sergeant
Toby W. Mallet.