

Regular Session, 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 38

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Private First Class Lionel Ayro.

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 Private First Class Lionel Ayro upon
4 his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

5 WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and most profound sorrow that the Senate
6 has learned of the tragic death in combat in Iraq of PFC Lionel Ayro; and

7 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro was a native of Jeanerette and a 2002 graduate of Jeanerette
8 Senior High School; and

9 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro had a dream of a career driving 18-wheelers and ultimately
10 owning his own rig and operating his own trucking business; and

11 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro placed the needs of his country ahead of his own dreams and
12 plans for the future and enlisted in the U.S. Army because he wanted to serve his country as
13 a soldier and fight in its war on terrorism; and

14 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro was assigned to the 73rd Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade, 25th
15 Infantry Division and made a part of the Stryker Brigade Combat Team that was stationed
16 in Fort Lewis, Washington; and

17 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro and his unit were ultimately deployed to the Iraqi Theater of
18 Operations and stationed in the city of Mosul, where he was given the task of running

1 engineering missions along the roads, rivers, and hills in the surrounding countryside of
2 northern Iraq; and

3 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro was known by his fellow combat engineers as a disciplined
4 soldier with a "can do" attitude, a strong work ethic, and a sensitive side that made him
5 keenly aware of the problems that the war caused for the people of Iraq, as well as the
6 American soldiers sent there to liberate the country; and

7 WHEREAS, it was ironic that after patrolling the dusty and dangerous roads of the
8 combat zone that PFC Ayro was participating in a December 21, 2004, holiday meal just
9 before Christmas when he and 12 other soldiers fell mortally wounded from a terrorist
10 mortar attack on their dining facility; and

11 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro was 22 years old but he will be remembered forever by his
12 family, friends, and fellow soldiers as a man that could be counted on under any
13 circumstances to place his men, his mission, and his country before any of his own needs,
14 despite the extremely dangerous nature of his unit's mission; and

15 WHEREAS, PFC Ayro's family, friends, and fellow soldiers will mourn and sorely
16 miss his strong, dependable nature, his sacrifice for his country has served to rally the
17 citizens of his hometown and fill the community with pride that one of their own was
18 making a difference in his nation's war on terror, and remind them that freedom is never free
19 and sometimes Americans must fight to protect the freedoms and liberties its citizens now
20 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 Private First Class Lionel Ayro
24 for fighting America's enemies in a faraway land.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
26 Catherine Ayro, the mother of PFC Lionel Ayro.

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 death of U.S. Army PFC Lionel Ayro.