

Regular Session, 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 47

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Sergeant Huey P. L. Fassbender.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Army National Guard Sergeant Huey P.L. Fassbender upon his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and most profound sorrow that the Senate has learned of the tragic death in combat of Sergeant Fassbender; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender was a native of LaPlace where he graduated from a Christian high school and participated in organized athletic activities as a member of the wrestling team; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender enlisted in the Army soon after high school and was assigned to Afghanistan where he participated in Operation Enduring Freedom there before leaving active military service and returning home and enlisting in the Louisiana National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender was a member of Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 156th Mechanized Infantry Regiment, 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team when his unit was deployed to the Iraqi Theater of Operations in the fall of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender loved his family and friends and missed them dearly during his tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, he loved his country and felt honored

1 to be able to use his considerable military experience to fight for his country and be a
2 valuable asset to his fellow soldiers in their efforts to destroy terrorist elements and free the
3 Iraqi people; and

4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender and his brothers-in-arms were subsequently given
5 the mission of supporting the 86th Infantry Regiment in an area of operations north of
6 Baghdad, near the small Iraqi town of Taji; and

7 WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender was 24 years old when he and his squad were sent
8 on patrol January 6, 2005, on a routine mission of searching out terrorist forces suspected
9 of operating in the area; and

10 WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender and six other National Guard soldiers riding in a
11 Bradley fighting vehicle were mortally wounded when their patrol was ambushed in a
12 roadside attack, marking the deadliest day for a single National Guard unit so far in the Iraqi
13 war; and

14 WHEREAS, six of the seven soldiers killed in the attack were from Louisiana,
15 tragically making the toll the largest single loss of life among Louisiana troops since the
16 Korean War; and

17 WHEREAS, while the loss of Sergeant Fassbender and his comrades was almost
18 more than his family and friends could endure, their ultimate sacrifice for their country made
19 citizens around Louisiana rally in support of the National Guard's gallant efforts in the war
20 on terror; and

21 WHEREAS, Sergeant Fassbender will forever be remembered by his family, friends,
22 and fellow soldiers as a brave and dedicated soldier, his sacrifice also serves as a reminder
23 that freedom is never free and Americans may have to fight to protect the freedoms and
24 liberties its citizens enjoy.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
26 does hereby express a profound sense of loss and sends its heartfelt condolences from a
27 grateful state and nation to the family of United States Army National Guard Sergeant Huey
28 P. L. Fassbender for his courageous efforts in fighting America's enemies in a faraway land.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
30 mother, Sandra Norra, and father, Huey Fassbender, Jr.

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 National Guard Sergeant Huey P. L. Fassbender.