CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Marine Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCurdy.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCurdy upon his death in ground combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom. WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy was a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, growing up there and graduating in 2004 from Christian Life Academy and attending Christian Life Church where his mother, Jan, is secretary to the pastor; and WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy excelled in high school athletics, playing center on the football team, being a member of the soccer team, and in baseball, he was recognized for his talents on the team by being named second-team all-district catcher; and WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy, after high school, made the decision to enlist in the United States Marine Corps because of his deeply-held feelings of love for his country and that joining the uniformed armed services would be the best way for him to serve his homeland; and WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy's entry into the marines came as no surprise to his friends and relatives who knew of his patriotic feelings and his desire to follow in the footsteps of his older brother, Marine Lance Corporal Grant McCurdy, currently stationed in California; and
WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Ryan McCurdy's athletic prowess was of great assistance to him as he endured the thirteen-week marine boot camp and all its tough mental and physical challenges and intense training rigors; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy, upon his graduation from basic combat training, was deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom and assigned to Headquarters Company, Regimental Combat Team 8, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), based in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy arrived in Iraq in the late summer of 2005 and distinguished himself throughout his tour of duty with his outstanding conduct, attention to detail and leadership capabilities; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy, at the young age of twenty was already a veteran of many patrols and contacts with the enemy and on January 5, 2006, found himself and the men of his unit conducting another patrol through the streets of Fallujah, a city infamous as a stronghold for terrorist forces and the site of some of the fiercest fighting during all of the Iraqi war; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy and his fellow marines came under attack by a heavily-armed enemy unit, with the marines quickly and bravely engaging the opposing force; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy and several other members of his patrol sustained serious wounds that would ultimately prove to be mortal to Lance Corporal McCurdy and one other marine; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal McCurdy brought great honor on himself, his family, his country, and the marine corps with his courageous conduct in combat and sacrifice in the name of freedom.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest condolences to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCurdy for his sacrifice in the nation's War on Terror.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCurdy.
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

DIGEST

Marionneaux

Expresses condolences to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCurdy upon his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom.