

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY SENATORS MARIONNEAUX, ADLEY, AMEDEE, BAJOIE, BARHAM, BOASSO, BROOME, CAIN, CASSIDY, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FIELDS, FONTENOT, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, HEITMEIER, HINES, HOLLIS, JACKSON, JONES, KOSTELKA, LENTINI, MALONE, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, QUINN, ROMERO, SCHEDLER, SHEPHERD, SMITH, THEUNISSEN AND ULLO

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 Jon Eric Bowman upon his death in combat in this nation's war against terrorism.

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Jon Eric Bowman was a native of Claiborne Parish in north Louisiana and a 2004 graduate of Summerville High School, where he was a member of the school's baseball team; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman began to seriously consider entering the military service of his country after the terrorist attacks in 2001 on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon near Washington, D.C., where nearly three thousand persons were killed; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman joined the United States Marine Corps within days of his graduation from high school, noting that Marines were legendary warriors, highly trained and motivated, and always the first to be called on by their country when it faced danger; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman took to the tough regimen of Corps training naturally, and excelled as he progressed through the most difficult stages of combat training known as "The Crucible"; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman emerged from boot camp with a new sense of pride in himself, welcoming the hard-earned experience he had gained and knowing he would forever be a "Marine"; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman soon received orders for his first tour of duty in Iraq, and proposed to long-time sweetheart Dawn Farley just before he boarded the plane for Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman served faithfully and with distinction in the combat zone, returning home to marry Dawn and beginning his new life as a husband and making plans for college after his enlistment ended; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman was called upon once more to serve his country in its fight against the forces of oppression in the Iraqi Theater and to shore up the fragile democracy he and his fellow Marines had helped create; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman was 21 years old when he and fellow Marines of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, began mounted combat patrols late in the day of October 9, 2006, in Anbar Province; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Bowman was in his position in a humvee, manning a .50 caliber machine gun when he and other Charlie Company Marines were engaged in fierce combat by a heavily armed enemy force, and he was mortally wounded by an improvised explosive device; and

WHEREAS, while the Purple Heart Medal, burial with full military honors and a crisply folded American flag were small comfort to Lance Corporal Bowman's family, they were filled with pride to have known and loved a man of such character, courage, and love of country.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its sincere and profound condolences to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jon Eric Bowman for their immeasurable loss and sacrifice in the name of freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Lance Corporal Jon Eric Bowman.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE