

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATORS MARIONNEAUX, ADLEY, AMEDEE, BAJOIE, BARHAM, BOASSO, BROOME, CAIN, CASSIDY, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FIELDS, FONTENOT, B. GAUTREAU, N. GAUTREAU, 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 Myles C. Sebastien upon his death in combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien was a native of Opelousas, Louisiana, and graduated from Opelousas High School in 2004, before enlisting in the Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien adapted quickly and naturally in boot camp, gaining pride in himself as he sharpened and honed his military skills and successfully completed "The Crucible" and other combat training phases on his journey from "recruit" to "Marine"; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien was assigned to 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien left his wife, Kelie, his family, and his many friends soon after his basic training was completed and began what would become his first combat tour in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien learned much during that initial assignment in the Iraqi Theater of Operations and would return home as a hardened combat veteran with a lifetime of experiences and memories that one can gain only by going through the fog and fire of war; and

WHEREAS, while Lance Corporal Sebastien was happy to be back among friends,

family, and especially his loving wife, he knew that the chances were great that he would be ordered back to the fight that raged on in the troubled, newly-formed and desperately struggling democracy of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, ultimately, Lance Corporal Sebastien and his unit were redeployed to Iraq, this time to the hotbed of terrorist and insurgent operations in Al Anbar Province, where Marines faced some of the toughest fighting going on in the entire theater of combat operations; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien was twenty-one years old when the Marine mortar man and other members of his unit were conducting operations December 20, 2006, and were engaged by a large, heavily-armed enemy force; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Sebastien was mortally wounded in the firefight that followed; and

WHEREAS, while Lance Corporal Sebastien's loved ones took some small comfort in Purple Hearts, military honors, and crisply folded American flags, they were proudest of the short time they were allowed to have with a real American hero, a patriot, and a young man of courage, conviction, and dedication.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its most sincere condolences and profound sorrow to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Myles C. Sebastien for their immeasurable loss and difficult sacrifice in America's War on Terror.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Myles C. Sebastien.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE