

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 42

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 Army Sergeant Matthew J. Vosbein upon his death in ground combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Matthew J. Vosbein was a native of West Frankfort, Illinois, where he lived and attended school until the age of ten, when he and his family moved to Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein made the New Orleans area his home, finishing his studies there and serving as the corps commander of his Reserve Officer Training Corps and later working in law enforcement in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein ultimately felt the call of his country and answered that call when he enlisted in the United States Army in September 2002, at Ft. Benning, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein hardened his body and sharpened his mind during the rigorous and challenging training he underwent at the military's premier infantry and airborne school; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein was soon assigned to the legendary Screaming Eagles at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, becoming a part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault); and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein excelled in his duties with his unit, attaining the rank of Sergeant in less than two years and serving with distinction as he deployed with his men for a tour of duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein loved the life of a soldier in the elite airborne forces and reenlisted in September 2004, in order to stay with his men and continue his mission, even passing up an assignment to Germany in order to return with his men for a second tour of duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein, between those combat tours, found love and was married to Lynda Dodge in February 2005, in Ft. Campbell, eventually becoming a proud father with the birth of sons, Connor and John, and helping parent with great affection his stepson, Brandon; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein was thirty years old when he and his men were conducting combat operations August 29, 2006, around the enemy-infested town of Yusufiyah in the infamous triangle of death area, south of Baghdad; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Vosbein and his men were dismounted and patrolling when they were engaged by a large, heavily-armed insurgent force in a fierce fight where Sergeant Vosbein was mortally wounded.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its most sincere condolences to the family of United States Army Sergeant Matthew J. Vosbein for their immeasurable loss and his ultimate sacrifice for his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of United States Army Sergeant Matthew J. Vosbein.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE