

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 73

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 Cavalry Scout Jared Crouch upon his death in ground combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, Scout Jared Crouch was a native of Zachary, Louisiana, growing up there and graduating from Starkey Academy in the rural community of Central, Louisiana, in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch left high school intent on following his childhood dream of serving his country in the military and participating directly in its War on Terror and the establishment of a democracy in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, as a boy, Scout Crouch listened to his father speak of his own ideas of the benefits of serving in the armed forces, working in law enforcement as a Baton Rouge Policeman until he died unexpectedly when his son was thirteen years old; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch welcomed the Spartan regimen of the military and the training he received at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, and he excelled during Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training as he sharpened the combat skills he must master if he were to be a part of the rugged life of a Cavalry Scout; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch was determined to be near the front of the fight and in the middle of things and he welcomed his assignment to the 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division located at Ft. Lewis, Washington; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch soon learned he and his comrades would be deployed to

Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007, and as soldiers throughout history had done before him, he prepared himself for the long absence from family and loved ones and honed the combat skills he would need to accomplish his mission; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch also planned for his future as his enlistment was scheduled to end after his Iraqi tour and he intended to join the Army National Guard and begin the study of history in college, with a long-range goal of gaining a job in government service; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch was twenty-one years old when he and elements of his brigade initiated a combat patrol on June 2, 2007, to investigate reports of enemy soldiers operating in his area of operations; and

WHEREAS, during this patrol, Scout Crouch and his comrades were engaged by a heavily armed, numerically superior enemy force in a ferocious firefight in which Scout Crouch was mortally wounded; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch's younger brother, John, an Army Reservist with a maintenance company stationed in Iraq then began making plans to bring home his big brother; and

WHEREAS, Scout Crouch's mother, Kathy, has begun making the painful transition from being a double Blue Star Mother to being a Gold Star Mother, signifying that she had lost a child in battle.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of United States Army Cavalry Scout Jared Crouch for their immeasurable loss and for his sacrifice in this nation's War on Terrorism.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of United States Army Cavalry Scout Jared Crouch.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE