CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of United States Army Sergeant First Class David J. Todd, Jr.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death in combat of United States Army Sergeant First Class David J. Todd, Jr., in his country's global war on terrorism.

WHEREAS, though Sergeant First Class Todd was a native of San Antonio, Texas, he held many things precious from his experiences in his adoptive state of Louisiana and considered Marrero his second home; and

WHEREAS, he grew up on the northeast side and attended MacArthur High School, where he met and married his wife, Tianne, and was blessed with five precious children that he loved dearly; and

WHEREAS, SFC Todd loved his country deeply and felt that the best way he could honor and serve it would be as a member of its armed forces, protecting his fellow citizens from the deadly intentions of terrorist organizations working to destroy justice, freedom, and liberty for all citizens, everywhere; and

WHEREAS, he left high school to pursue his dream of military service to his country and climbed through the enlisted ranks through training, devotion, and discipline as he inspired and earned the respect of the men he commanded, always placing his men and mission before himself; and
WHEREAS, SFC Todd ultimately found himself teaching in the Reserve Officer
Training Corps at Tulane University and had a successful three-year tour there as an
instructor when he decided that he would volunteer for combat duty in the Afghanistan
Theater of Operations; and

WHEREAS, he already had served two tours in Iraq, but his love for his country and
the honor he felt when he led his men in combat, accomplished their mission and brought
them back alive was so great that he ignored the personal dangers to himself; and

WHEREAS, SFC Todd trained hard at Fort Riley, Kansas, with the legendary 1st
Infantry Division, as he prepared for his deployment to Operation Enduring Freedom with
the 1st Brigade of the “Big Red One”; and

WHEREAS, he was assigned to a Military Transition Team where he would advise,
teach, mentor, and coach his Afghan Army counterparts, as well as assisting them with
indirect fire, air strikes, and tactics during ground combat operations; and

WHEREAS, SFC Todd was further assigned to the Afghan Regional Security
Integration Command-West, located in Herat, Afghanistan, where he served as a
reconnaissance scout; and

WHEREAS, he was 36 years old when he led his reconnaissance patrol through the
dangerous streets of Bala Morghab on August 20, 2008, and was engaged by a large and
well-armed enemy force in a fierce battle at close range when he was mortally wounded as
he bravely lead his men.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
does hereby express its heartfelt sorrow and deepest condolences to the family of Sergeant
First Class David J. Todd, Jr., and takes note of his gallant service and ultimate sacrifice for
his country in its war on terror.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
family of United States Army Sergeant First Class David J. Todd.
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

DIGEST

Marionneaux

Expresses condolences upon the death in combat of U.S. Army SFC David J. Todd, Jr.