

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 90

BY SENATOR ADLEY

CONDOLENCES. Extends condolences upon the death of Louisiana Army National Guard Specialist Christopher R. Drake.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the
3 family of Louisiana Army National Guard Specialist Christopher R. Drake upon his
4 death in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

5 WHEREAS, Specialist Christopher R. Drake was a native of Tickfaw, Louisiana and
6 a 2011 graduate of Independence High School, where he displayed great talent and
7 proficiency on the school's football team and was recognized as an all-district cornerback;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Specialist Drake dreamed of going to college to get a degree in
10 mechanical engineering; and

11 WHEREAS, it became apparent to Specialist Drake that his best option for financing
12 his educational goals would be to join the Louisiana Army National Guard, where
13 guardsmen are provided college benefits; and

14 WHEREAS, he enlisted in the Guard in September 2011, to become a truck driver,
15 completing his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and being assigned to the
16 1084th Transportation Company, 165th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 139th
17 Regional Support Group of the Louisiana Army National Guard based in Reserve, Louisiana,
18 a unit that specializes in transportation on convoy escorts; and

1 WHEREAS, in April 2012, Specialist Drake arrived in Afghanistan in support of
2 Operation Enduring Freedom; and

3 WHEREAS, Specialist Drake was given the dangerous task of gunner on a Mine
4 Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle and he performed bravely during the deadly patrols his
5 unit conducted; and

6 WHEREAS, Specialist Drake soon won the hard-earned confidence of his fellow
7 soldiers, and those who rode with him would jokingly declare that he saved their lives on a
8 daily basis; and

9 WHEREAS, Specialist Drake was twenty years old when he and his crew were given
10 a mission for Sunday, May 26, 2013, to conduct mounted patrols in support of American
11 ground forces searching for the enemy; and

12 WHEREAS, on that day, Specialist Drake and his patrol found and engaged heavily
13 armed enemy soldiers in Bagram, Afghanistan, and in the ensuing firefight, he and his
14 vehicle were struck by a rocket-propelled grenade and Specialist Drake was mortally
15 wounded; and

16 WHEREAS, Specialist Drake's sacrifice has left those who loved him, his brothers
17 in arms, his friends and family and especially his mother Rose, his fiancée Britny and their
18 young son with a sense of loss that cannot be measured, but they are also proud to have
19 simply known such a truly great American.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
21 does hereby extend its deepest and most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends who
22 dearly loved Specialist Christopher R. Drake and now mourn his loss and celebrate his
23 contributions and sacrifices.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
25 Specialist Drake's mother, Rose, and his fiancée, Britny McAdams.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

DIGEST

Adley

SR No. 90

Expresses condolences upon the death of Louisiana Army National Guard Specialist
Christopher R. Drake in Afghanistan.