

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY SENATOR ADLEY

CONDOLENCES. Extends condolences upon the death of U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant Gregory J. Mullins.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the  
3 family of United States Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant Gregory Mullins upon his  
4 death during a combat training exercise in California.

5 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins grew up in Bayou L'Ourse, a small town in  
6 Assumption Parish where everyone in the community knew each other, worshiped together,  
7 and worked along the side of their neighbor; and

8 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins graduated from Morgan City High School  
9 and in March of 2002, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps to fulfill his lifelong goal of  
10 becoming a Marine; and

11 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins had long valued loyalty, courage and  
12 integrity, and he worked and trained hard, and made those qualities a part of his life as a  
13 dedicated Marine; and

14 WHEREAS, as a highly respected member of the Corps, he chose as his field of  
15 expertise the extremely dangerous job of an explosive ordnance disposal technician, and  
16 after much training, he became part of an elite team of Marine Corps ordnance experts; and

17 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins mastered his military duties and  
18 responsibilities quickly and was steadily promoted as his leadership skills were recognized

1 by his superior officers; an inspiration to his men, the troops in his unit followed his orders  
2 without hesitation; and

3 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins would be deployed twice to Afghanistan, in  
4 2011 and 2012, as a team leader and learned much as he patrolled the often ambushed routes  
5 of the deadly war zone in search of much feared improvised explosive devices; and

6 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins returned to the United States from Operation  
7 Enduring Freedom with much combat experience and was chosen to serve as the  
8 Noncommissioned Officer-In-Charge assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron,  
9 Marine Corps Air Station, Camp Pendleton; and

10 WHEREAS, on November 13, 2013, thirty-one year old Gunnery Sergeant Mullins  
11 was one of a group of Marine Corps Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians sweeping a  
12 firing range called the Zulu impact area where munitions such as grenades, mortars, artillery  
13 and rockets were used for training Marines in the dangerous art of war; and

14 WHEREAS, during the range maintenance operation to dispose of unexpended  
15 ordnance, no live fire of weapons are allowed, but the munitions being collected and secured  
16 for disposal can be so unstable that handling them is extremely dangerous, even for the elite  
17 and highly trained Marine explosives experts; and

18 WHEREAS, Range NCOIC Gunnery Sergeant Mullins, Staff Sergeant Mathew  
19 Marsh, Staff Sergeant Eric Summers, and Sergeant Miguel Ortiz were all mortally wounded  
20 when the munitions they were collecting detonated; and

21 WHEREAS, Gunnery Sergeant Mullins awards and decorations include two Navy  
22 and Marine Corps Commendations Medals, the deeply respected Combat Action Ribbon,  
23 three Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the  
24 Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the NATO  
25 Medal-ISAF Afghanistan.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
27 does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of Gunnery  
28 Sergeant Gregory Mullins for the immeasurable loss they have suffered by his death and for  
29 the ultimate sacrifice this Marine made.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to

1 U.S.M.C. Gunnery Sergeant Gregory Mullins wife Violeta, his children, Ethan, age three,  
2 Giovanna, age two, and stepdaughter, Camila, age nine, as well as his mother Dena Polk, and  
3 father Christopher Holbert.

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

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DIGEST

Adley

SR No. 97

Expresses condolences upon the death of USMC Gunnery Sergeant Gregory Mullins.