

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY SENATOR PERRY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences of the Louisiana Senate upon the death of Lynette Miller Bell.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the
3 family of Lynette Miller Bell upon her death.

4 WHEREAS, Lynette Miller Bell touched so many lives in such a positive and healing
5 manner during times of great sorrow and grief as a founding member of the Blue Star
6 Mothers Chapter 1 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, along with her dear friends, Janet Broussard
7 and Joni Nunnery, in 2005; and

8 WHEREAS, Lynette had a tremendous passion for military personnel and their
9 families, and her involvement in creating a military ministry at St. Alphonsus Catholic
10 Church brought much comfort to those in uniform and to those at home awaiting their return;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Lynette was instrumental in her work to form a special Way of the
13 Cross for our troops and a Military Rosary for members of our armed forces to use when
14 they were stationed in places far from home; and

15 WHEREAS, Lynette and other members of the Blue Star Mothers supported military
16 families by letter writing efforts and sending care packages to American troops, and she got
17 schools involved in making and sending cards, letters and essays to our armed forces
18 stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan as the War on Terror expanded and armed forces levels

1 rose to meet the growing challenge; and

2 WHEREAS, Lynette was also deeply committed to military events at the USS Kidd
3 and helped start and organize those ceremonies that have become part of the Baton Rouge
4 community; and

5 WHEREAS, Lynette spearheaded the first prayer rally held at the USS Kidd for our
6 troops and more than one thousand people gathered and prayed that the first free elections
7 held in Iraq would help hasten the safe return of our forces; and

8 WHEREAS, she could also be counted on to work and organize patriotic events on
9 Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Armed Forces Day and the Freedom Walk in honor of
10 September 11, 2001; and

11 WHEREAS, Lynette was a driving force in the Wreaths Across America ceremony
12 each year as groups such as the Blue Star Mothers and Gold Star Mothers placed Christmas
13 wreaths on all the graves in military cemeteries; and

14 WHEREAS, Lynette formed a strong bond with the Gold Star Families whose
15 children had made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom by doing all she could to support
16 and honor them, and she helped start the annual Gold Star Luncheon where the families were
17 honored and presented a Gold Star flag and pin; and

18 WHEREAS, Lynette and the Blue Star Mothers also lobbied the Louisiana
19 Legislature to pass laws that prevented protests at soldiers' funerals, created more benefits
20 for our troops and authorized the creation of a Gold Star license plate in honor of the fallen;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, one of Lynette's proudest moments was traveling to Arlington National
23 Cemetery with her son, Sergeant Mark St. Roman, Janet Broussard and Shari Yazback to
24 present the four Vietnam soldiers' families their Gold Star flags when their loved ones'
25 remains were recovered, and she prayed over their graves, Proverbs 3:6, "In everything you
26 do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your effort with success".

27 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
28 does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of Lynette
29 Miller Bell for its loss of such an American patriot and for her many sacrifices on behalf of
30 armed forces personnel everywhere.

