

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 57

BY SENATOR PERRY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses the condolences of the Louisiana Senate on the death of U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Jason M. Smith.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the
3 family of U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Jason M. Smith upon his death while in the
4 service of his country.

5 WHEREAS, Jason M. Smith was a native of Destrehan, Louisiana, where he
6 attended Destrehan High School and graduated in 1999 before he decided to enlist in the
7 U.S. Army; and

8 WHEREAS, Jason M. Smith made the decision early in his service that he would
9 make the U.S. Army a career and that he would specialize in aviation, learning all he could
10 about keeping a rotary winged aircraft operational and flying and being the best and most
11 well-trained crew member that he could; and

12 WHEREAS, he trained hard and learned the qualities of what it takes to be a great
13 crew member, and his commanders noticed his outstanding skills and knowledge of flying
14 and promoted him steadily up through the ranks until he achieved the rank of Sergeant First
15 Class; and

16 WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Smith used his considerable experience and
17 expertise in helicopters during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina where he served as part
18 of the recovery efforts in New Orleans, South Louisiana and other areas stricken by the killer

1 storm; and

2 WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Smith served his country bravely and steadfastly
3 while he was deployed multiple times to combat theaters in support of Operation Iraqi
4 Freedom from August 2004 to March 2005, Operation Enduring Freedom from September
5 2011 to September 2012, and Operation Freedom's Sentinel from September 2014 to May
6 2015; and

7 WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Smith successfully completed many military
8 schools during his career and became expert in emergency medical techniques, hazardous
9 materials safety and small arms maintenance; and

10 WHEREAS, on November 23, 2015, Sergeant First Class Smith was assigned to the
11 2nd Battalion, 291st Aviation Regiment, 1st Army Division West, at Fort Hood, Texas, and
12 was taking part in a routine training mission when his aircraft crashed for unknown reasons,
13 taking his life and the lives of three other crew members; and

14 WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Smith's awards and decorations include the Bronze
15 Star Medal, two Air Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, several Army Commendation
16 Medals, four Army Achievement Medals, Five Army Good Conduct Medals, the National
17 Defense Service Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, the
18 Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, the Iraq Campaign Medal with
19 Bronze Service Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Global War on
20 Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, two Noncommissioned
21 Officers Professional Development Ribbons, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service
22 Ribbon, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal, and the Senior Aviation Badge.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
24 does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of U.S. Army
25 Sergeant First Class Jason M. Smith for their immeasurable loss and for his courageous
26 service to his country.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
28 U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Jason M. Smith's wife, Trisha Smith.

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

SR 57 Original	DIGEST 2016 Regular Session	Perry
----------------	--------------------------------	-------

Expresses condolences upon the death of U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Jason M. Smith.