SLS 22RS-723 **ORIGINAL**

2022 Regular Session

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY SENATORS MILLIGAN, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, FOIL, REESE AND TARVER

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state during the last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disasters.

A RESOLUTION

2	To commend the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state during the
3	last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disasters.
4	WHEREAS, during these tumultuous years, the Louisiana National Guard has
5	performed exemplary work and displayed tremendous dedication through its efforts to
6	protect the lives and welfare of Louisianians; and
7	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard fulfills its federal and state missions in
8	concert with a wide variety of statewide organizations; and
9	WHEREAS, by air, by land, and by water, the Louisiana National Guard knows what
10	to do in any emergency and it all begins with working as a team; and
11	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard has supported the response to the
12	pandemic since Covid-19's first known case, March 2020; and
13	WHEREAS, more than nine hundred soldiers and airmen of the Louisiana National
14	Guard remain activated in response to Covid-19; and
15	WHEREAS, due to the efforts of the Guard, more than four hundred ninety-seven
16	three hundred fifty-two individuals were tested at twenty-three test sites statewide, two
17	million three hundred forty-one thousand seven hundred ninety-five food boxes were
18	distributed, sixty-one million nine hundred thousand items of personal protective equipment

1	(PPE) were delivered, and one hundred ninety thousand two hundred ninety-eight shots were
2	administered; and
3	WHEREAS, through five waves of the pandemic, the soldiers and airmen of the
4	Louisiana National Guard have developed new skills that have better prepared the Louisiana
5	National Guard for future pandemics; and
6	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard stretched itself in every direction,
7	supporting all missions including food and water distribution, transportation,
8	communication, public works, engineering, emergency management, mass care, emergency
9	assistance, logistics management, COVID-19 testing, public safety, security, traffic control,
10	generators, power supply, and food bank operations; and
11	WHEREAS, Hurricane Laura came ashore in south Louisiana August 27, 2020, as
12	a Category 4, causing catastrophic flooding and damage; and
13	WHEREAS, more than six thousand two hundred Louisiana National Guard
14	members were deployed, using two hundred thirty-six high water vehicles, seventy-six boats,
15	and seventeen helicopters to support hurricane rescue efforts, in addition to over a dozen
16	engineering teams trained to help move debris and clear roads; and
17	WHEREAS, the Guard helped evacuate more than three hundred fifty-eight people
18	and twenty-nine pets from affected areas; and
19	WHEREAS, after Hurricane Laura, the Louisiana National Guard distributed more
20	than five million meals-ready-to-eat, over seven million liters of water, more than one
21	million bags of ice, and nearly two hundred thousand tarps to victims of the storm; and
22	WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida came ashore in south Louisiana August 29, 2021, as a
23	Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 150 mph and heavy rainfall, causing catastrophic
24	flooding and damage; and
25	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard conducted search and rescue sweeps
26	across thirty-one parishes, rescuing more than three hundred ninety-seven people and
27	sixty-five pets by the Wednesday after the hurricane and clearing 403 miles of routes
28	clogged with debris; and
29	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard distributed almost seven million MREs

and almost eight million of water, over one million three hundred thousand bags of ice, over

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1	three hundred thousand tarps, and over four hundred generators; and
2	WHEREAS, Guardsmen opened seventeen locations to distribute food and water to
3	people in need in nine parishes, with plans to operate forty; and
4	WHEREAS, another four hundred guard members were assisting law enforcement
5	with security in New Orleans and six parishes; and
6	WHEREAS, about four thousand three hundred members of the Louisiana National
7	Guard were assisting with relief efforts; and
8	WHEREAS, more than one thousand two hundred members of the Louisiana
9	National Guard helped clear roads and handled logistical support in response to the winter
10	storm in 2021; and
11	WHEREAS, using four engineer assessment teams and four engineer work teams,
12	the Louisiana National Guard assessed one hundred thirty-seven miles of road while clearing
13	one hundred eleven miles of snow and debris from roads in three parishes; and
14	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard also provided seven wreckers to help
15	Louisiana State Police and state transportation officials clear Interstate 20, moving two
16	hundred sixty disabled commercial vehicles; and
17	WHEREAS, the Guard also distributed over one million two hundred thousand
18	one-liter bottles of water to people in parishes affected by the storm and over four hundred
19	thousand gallons of bulk water to hospitals and other medical centers; and
20	WHEREAS, the Guard provided thirteen generators to six parishes to assist with
21	water systems; and
22	WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard responded to flooding throughout the
23	state following multiple days of steady rain beginning in May of 2021; and
24	WHEREAS, at the height of the response, the Louisiana National Guard had three
25	hundred ninety-three Guard members activated to support various missions, including search
26	and rescue, engineering, and aerial reconnaissance; and
27	WHEREAS, using as many as seventy-nine high-water vehicles and nineteen boats,
28	Guardsmen rescued twenty-five people and two pets in Lake Charles; and
29	WHEREAS, engineer assessment teams worked with local and state officials to
30	determine the specific needs of communities to combat rising flood waters, while teams in

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multiple locations installed three thousand three hundred fifty feet of Tiger Dam, as a series 1 2 of water-filed tubes that create a barrier to mitigate flooding; and 3 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard confronted a demanding series of events 4 with multiple challenges and missions at home and abroad; and WHEREAS, Guardsmen deployed overseas and to other states during the past few 5 6 years, responded to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and other emergencies and 7 participated in several significant events; and 8 WHEREAS, the tireless professionalism of our soldiers and airmen in supporting the 9 state's initial response to the COVID-19 crisis and responding to the devastation of several 10 hurricanes, including but not limited to hurricanes Laura and Ida, demonstrate the 11 immeasurable value of the men and women of the Louisiana National Guard; and WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard continues to live up to its promise of 12 13 "Always Ready, Always There". 14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana 15 does hereby commend the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state 16 during the last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disaster. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to 17 18 Major General Keith Waddell of the Louisiana National Guard. The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

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SR 89 Original

DIGEST 2022 Regular Session

Milligan

Commends the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state during the last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disasters.