

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 98

BY SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal Christopher O. Grant upon his death while engaging enemy forces in combat operations in Afghanistan.

WHEREAS, Christopher O. Grant was a native of Richwood, Louisiana, growing up and graduating in 2012 from Richwood High School after distinguishing himself in numerous school activities, including choir, football and track, and especially the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps; and

WHEREAS, after high school, Christopher Grant enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and began a journey he had dreamed of for years, to serve his country in its armed forces as a U.S. Marine; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Grant demonstrated great leadership traits during his boot camp training at Paris Island, South Carolina, and he quickly advanced to the position of squad leader and was promoted to Private First Class before leaving basic training in October 2012; and

WHEREAS, Private First Class Grant would receive another promotion before he received his orders to deploy to Operation Enduring Freedom and he proudly wore the rank of Lance Corporal as he headed for the Middle East hotspot; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Grant was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Marines, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, before being deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Grant and his fellow Marines had begun conducting combat operations as soon as they arrived and all of the fresh Marine forces were learning much about America's longest war as each new day passed; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Grant was twenty years old when he and his unit were given the mission of finding, fixing, and engaging enemy troops that were reported to be operating in Helmand Province; and

WHEREAS, it was on such an operation, on October 20, 2013, less than a month after arriving in theater, that Lance Corporal Grant and his unit found enemy forces and engaged them in a fierce firefight in which Lance Corporal Grant bravely fought and was mortally wounded; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Grant will be forever mourned and deeply missed by his family, friends, and fellow Marines, but he will always be remembered for his dedication, discipline, and his answer to the call of duty from his country.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its deep and sincere condolences to the family of U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal Christopher O. Grant for their loss of a loved one and their Marine's ultimate sacrifice for his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lance Corporal Grant's mother, LaShonda Grant.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE