

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY REPRESENTATIVES TERRY LANDRY, BARROW, AND HUNTER

## A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Master  
Trooper Byron Gray, Sr.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Master Trooper Byron Gray, Sr., on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at the age of forty-six; and

WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray's fellow citizens sincerely mourn his death, and it is appropriate to honor his life and legacy of service; and

WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray was born on October 23, 1967; he graduated from Capitol High School in 1985, and went on to attend Nicholls State University and Southern University A & M College; and

WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray was a member of the 239<sup>th</sup> Military Police, Louisiana National Guard; he earned an Army Service Ribbon and a Louisiana General Excellence Medal for his dedicated and exceptional service in the National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray joined the police force in 1990 and served in the office of state police, Department of Public Safety and Corrections; and

WHEREAS, for his outstanding and dedicated service as a law enforcement officer, Trooper Gray received eight commendations and many other awards, including the Louisiana Emergency Service Award, for assisting in the recovery and cleanup following the Columbia Space Shuttle Disaster; and

WHEREAS, for his courageous and heroic efforts in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Master Trooper Gray received the Unit Citation Award and the Meritorious Service Award; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Master Trooper Gray received many certifications, including chemical testing for intoxication, Federal Motor Carrier Safety

1 Administration Basic Compliance, and a certificate from Northwestern University in traffic  
2 technical accident investigation; and

3 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray held membership in the Louisiana State Troopers  
4 Association and Central State Trooper Association and was an active and faithful member  
5 of Elm Grove Baptist Church in Baton Rouge; and

6 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray was also a committed and engaged Mason, Prince  
7 Hall Affiliation; he held numerous leadership positions in the organization and was  
8 promoted and recognized several times for his service and devotion; and

9 WHEREAS, as a Free Mason, Master Trooper Gray worked tirelessly on countless  
10 community service projects; he attended nearly every Mason convention and often served  
11 on the planning committees for many meetings and conferences; and

12 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray was preceded in death by his wife, Anne Gray,  
13 and his father, Baron Gray; and

14 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray is survived by his mother, Vendora Gray, his  
15 sister, Glennis Gray, and his son, who was his pride and joy, Byron Gray, Jr.; and

16 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray had a magnetic personality, was truly interested  
17 in helping people from all walks of life, and dedicated his time to mentor the youth in his  
18 community; he was a positive role model for at-risk children and went above and beyond to  
19 help provide them with the resources to live safe and trouble-free lives; and

20 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray was a beloved citizen of Baton Rouge and his  
21 passing has created a genuine sense of sorrow in the Baton Rouge area and beyond; and

22 WHEREAS, with the death of Master Trooper Gray, Louisiana has lost one of her  
23 finest sons, a tremendous man of strength, integrity, service, and faith whose contributions  
24 have left an indelible mark on every person whose life he touched; and

25 WHEREAS, the loss of Master Trooper Gray is magnified by the fact that his fellow  
26 citizens are only left to imagine the contributions he might have made had his life not been  
27 so untimely ended; and

28 WHEREAS, Master Trooper Gray deserves honor and recognition and a sincere  
29 measure of posthumous gratitude and respect for the light and joy that he brought to the lives  
30 of his family members and friends; and

1           WHEREAS, the entire House of Representatives family empathizes with the  
2           tremendous pain that Master Trooper Gray's family and friends are suffering and joins them  
3           in mourning the loss of this wonderful man.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5           Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the  
6           death of Master Trooper Byron Gray, Sr.; does hereby recognize the enduring impact that  
7           he had on the lives of his fellow citizens, including his colleagues at the Louisiana State  
8           Police; does hereby commemorate his service to Louisiana as both a National Guardsman  
9           and a Master Trooper; does hereby extend the hope that his family and friends will be  
10          granted the strength that they need to cope with the tragic loss of this outstanding citizen,  
11          whose memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved him;  
12          and does hereby extend appreciation for his enduring legacy that will forever bring great  
13          pride and honor to the Louisiana State Police, the Baton Rouge community, and to the entire  
14          state of Louisiana.

15          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
16          to the family of Master Trooper Byron Gray, Sr.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES