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2017 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY SENATOR ALARIO

COMMENDATIONS. Commemorating the 26th anniversary of the conclusion of Operation Desert Storm and to support a National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington, D.C.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commemorate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the conclusion of Operation Desert Storm
3	and to indicate support for a National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington,
4	D.C.
5	WHEREAS, February 28, 2017, marks the twenty-sixth anniversary of the cease-fire
6	declaration in Operation Desert Storm as the Iraqis accepted the cease-fire terms, bringing
7	an end to the war; and
8	WHEREAS, the invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait by Iraq was met with
9	broad international condemnation by the United Nations Security Council shortly after the
10	Iraqi invasion began on August 2, 1990; and
11	WHEREAS, more than a half million American troops and additional troops from
12	thirty-four countries, the largest coalition since World War II, were involved in the campaign
13	to free Kuwait from its invasion and annexation by Iraq; and
14	WHEREAS, among the troops who made the ultimate sacrifice during this military
15	operation, five military veterans from Louisiana gave their lives during the months of
16	Operation Desert Storm; and
17	WHEREAS, Operation Desert Storm was America's first major military engagement
18	since action in Vietnam in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and 1970s; and

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1	WHEREAS, President George Herbert Walker Bush ordered United States troops
2	from all branches of service and their allied forces to bring all military resources to dislodge
3	the Iraqi forces from the independent nation of Kuwait; and
4	WHEREAS, in a mere forty-three days of actual combat, the allied forces were
5	victorious over the invading Iraqis, and returned Kuwait to self-rule; and
6	WHEREAS, at the time, President Bush stated that "during Operation Desert Storm
7	our troops served with valor and honor to defend what was right and just"; and
8	WHEREAS, the president also expressed his hope that the sacrifices of the troops
9	who gave their lives on the field of battle, in addition to those who were injured in this
10	endeavor and all those who fought so valiantly to free the people of Kuwait from occupation
11	by Iraq would not be forgotten by a grateful nation; and
12	WHEREAS, in 2014, Congress passed and President Obama signed into law on
13	December 19, 2014, the "National Operation Desert Storm War Memorial Act", which
14	authorizes the National Desert Storm Memorial Association, a private group of citizens, to
15	establish a commemorative work on federal land in the District of Columbia; and
16	WHEREAS, upon being selected to act as honorary chairman of the association,
17	President George H. W. Bush stated that "as president there is no more solemn duty than
18	sending men and women to war", and that he was pleased and honored to work with this
19	group to ensure that those who served in Operation Desert Storm would be remembered by
20	the people of the United States forever; and
21	WHEREAS, the memorial is planned for the northwest corner of the National Mall,
22	steps from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial; and
23	WHEREAS, the memorial will be built at a cost expected to be at least twenty-five
24	million dollars of private funds and maintained solely with private funds before reverting to
25	the ownership of the federal government and maintenance by the National Parks Service;
26	and
27	WHEREAS, the memorial will commemorate and honor those American troops who
28	fought, died, and were injured in this wholly defensive mission to drive Iraqi forces from the
29	independent country of Kuwait, serving as a permanent memorial to all who participated in
30	freeing the people of Kuwait.

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1	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
2	commemorate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the conclusion of Operation Desert Storm.
3	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
4	indicate support for a National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington, D.C.
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Scott
6	Stump, the chief executive officer and president of the National Desert Storm Memorial
7	Association.
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.
	DIGEST

Commemorates the 26th anniversary of the successful conclusion of Operation Desert Storm and expresses support for the building of a memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. by the National Desert Storm Memorial Association.

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