

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY REPRESENTATIVE REYNOLDS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Rodolphe Fabre on his one hundredth birthday and for his military service.

WHEREAS, attainment to the rank of centenarian is indeed rare, and on June 8, 2018, Rodolphe Fabre will join this exclusive club; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 1918, Adolph and Olite Fabre welcomed their first child, Rodolphe, to his hometown of Leroy, Louisiana; Rodolphe was big brother to four siblings who followed; and

WHEREAS, Rodolphe's budding career as a farmer was cut short in June of 1940 when the cotton crop he cultivated was lost, so he elected to join the United States Army; early duty assignments included Fort Benning as the battalion commander's driver, Military Police duties at Camp Beauregard, and rifleman in a tank destroyer battalion at Fort Hood; and

WHEREAS, Rodolphe was assigned to Europe in December 1944; his ocean transit was aboard a British ship which landed in Marseilles, France, and from there he was transported to Belgium; Rodolphe Fabre was one of the many valiant infantrymen of the 80th Division, 3rd Army, who fought in the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, while working with his fellow soldiers to rebuild a pontoon bridge over the Sauer River on April 24, 1945, a German 88 fighter plane strafed their position and wounded Rodolphe in his ribs and legs; he was the only survivor and was evacuated to a Luxembourg hospital; and

WHEREAS, by June of 1945, Rodolphe Fabre was honorably discharged; for his military service, he received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Good Conduct, American Defense, American Theatre, and European Campaign medals; and

WHEREAS, upon his discharge, Rodolphe Fabre rejoined his wife Martha and their first two children in Texas where Rodolphe found employment with Gulf Oil; in 1966, the Fabre family moved to Maurice, Louisiana, and later to Milton, Louisiana, where Rodolphe resumed farming; he retired from farming when he was eighty-three; and

WHEREAS, Rodolphe and Martha were married for sixty-two years, until her death in 2004, and their marriage was blessed with five children, thirteen grandchildren, twenty-two great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren; Rodolphe Fabre is a proud member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, MacKenzie Chapter No. 504, the Greatest Generation Diners Club, the Milton Civic Organization, and the St. Joseph Church ushers, and this remarkable man is pleased to join the rarified set of proud Louisiana centenarians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Rodolphe Fabre upon the happy occasion of his one hundredth birthday; does hereby recognize and herald his outstanding service to our country during his tour of duty in the United States Army; and does hereby express best thoughts and prayers for continued good health and many more birthdays to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Rodolphe Fabre.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES