HLS 13RS-2301 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167** 

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARMODY, ABRAMSON, ADAMS, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, BADON, BARRAS, BARROW, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, STUART WESLEY BISHOP, BROADWATER, BROSSETT, BROWN, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANEY, CONNICK, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOVE, EDWARDS, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRIS, HARRISON, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HONORE, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, GIROD JACKSON, KATRINA JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JOHNSON, JONES, KLECKLEY, LAMBERT, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LOPINTO, MACK, MILLER, MONTOUCET, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, ORTEGO, PEARSON, PIERRE, PONTI, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THIERRY, THOMPSON, WHITNEY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, PATRICK WILLIAMS, AND WILLMOTT

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Rep. Nick Lorusso on twenty years of dedicated service to the United States Army as a JAG Corps officer

A RESOLUTION

2 To commend State Representative Nick Lorusso on twenty years of honorable and dedicated service to the United States Army and to recognize the immense pride that 3 4 Representative Lorusso brings to his family, his state, and the Legislature of 5 Louisiana. 6 WHEREAS, State Representative Nick Lorusso will celebrate his twentieth 7 anniversary as a Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps officer on June 3, 2013, and it is 8 appropriate to commend him for the distinction and honor with which he has served the 9 United States Army and the House of Representatives; and 10 WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso graduated magna cum laude from Jesuit High 11 School, where he played football and wrestled, was the captain of the wrestling team, and 12 won the state championship in his weight class during his senior year; Representative

1	Lorusso also graduated from the University of New Orleans with a degree in history and
2	went on to earn a law degree from the Louisiana State University Law Center in 1992; and
3	WHEREAS, upon graduating from law school, Representative Lorusso was
4	commissioned as an active duty officer in the United States Army JAG Corps, and upon
5	completion of U.S. Airborne School and receiving his Basic Parachutist wings, he was
6	stationed at Fort Drum, New York, with the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) and
7	served as a military prosecutor and special assistant U.S. Attorney; and
8	WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso was deployed to the Republic of Haiti during
9	OPERATION UPHOLD DEMOCRACY as an International Law and Detention Operations
10	Attorney, and upon returning to New Orleans in 1996 and transferring to the Army Reserves,
11	Representative Lorusso began a general civil defense litigation law practice; and
12	WHEREAS, following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Representative
13	Lorusso was recalled to active duty as part of the global war on terrorism, and in 2004 he
14	was mobilized to serve as Chief of the Legal Assistance Division, III Corps (Rear) at Fort
15	Hood, Texas, where he was deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Pentagon in
16	Washington, D.C., to serve at the al-Qaida terrorist tribunals; and
17	WHEREAS, after a brief return to civilian law practice, Representative Lorusso was
18	once again called to active duty in 2005, following the devastation caused by Hurricanes
19	Katrina and Rita, and served as the Command Judge Advocate of a hurricane recovery task
20	force at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi, where he assisted more than
21	three thousand two hundred soldiers and their families who lost their jobs or homes, or both,
22	as a result of the hurricanes; and
23	WHEREAS, following a return to civilian law practice, Representative Lorusso was
24	elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in March 2007 in a special election and
25	was reelected for a full four-year term in November of that year, and during his initial term
26	in the House, Representative Lorusso was appointed as Vice Chairman of the Civil Law and
27	Procedure Committee; and
28	WHEREAS, in 2009, Representative Lorusso was recalled to active duty for the third
29	time since September 11, 2001, and took a leave of absence from the Louisiana Legislature

1	while he served as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate of I Corps (Rear) at Fort Lewis in
2	Washington and was second in command of a one hundred thirty person legal office; and
3	WHEREAS, in October 2011, Representative Lorusso was reelected for a second
4	four-year term and was appointed Chairman of the Special Committee on Military and
5	Veterans Affairs and Vice Chairman of the retirement committee, and he also serves on the
6	appropriations committee and the insurance committee, as well as the Joint Legislative
7	Committee on the Budget, the Governor's Military Advisory Committee, and the Battle of
8	New Orleans Bicentennial Commission; and
9	WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso currently serves in the Army Reserves with the
10	rank of Lieutenant Colonel and will graduate from the United States Army War College in
11	July 2013 with a Masters of Strategic Studies degree; and
12	WHEREAS, over the course of his remarkable military career, Representative
13	Lorusso has been recognized many times for his bravery, dedication, and heroism, including:
14	Meritorious Service Medal (2005), Joint Service Commendation Medal (1994), Army
15	Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters (1996, 2003, 2006, 2013), Joint Service
16	Achievement Medal (2005), Army Achievement Medal (2001), Army Reserve Component
17	Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters (2002, 2005, 2008), National Defense Service
18	Medal with one bronze star (1993, 2004), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (1994),
19	Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (2004), Global War on Terrorism Service
20	Medal (2004), Armed Forces Service Medal (2005), Humanitarian Service Medal with one
21	bronze star (1994, 2005), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (2003), Armed
22	Forces Reserve Medal with one bronze hour glass (2009), "M" Device with "2" device
23	(2004, 2009), Army Service Ribbon (1993), Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon
24	with "3" device (2003, 2006, 2008), Joint Meritorious Unit Award (1994, 2004), and Basic
25	Parachute Wings (1993); and
26	WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso has been married to the love of his life,
27	Michelle, for nineteen years, and they are the proud parents of three children: Nicholas,
28	Sophia, and Katherine; and
29	WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso merits the highest commendation and sincere
30	congratulations for his exemplary term of military service and for his outstanding

1 contributions to the United States Army, to the Louisiana Legislature, and to his state and

2 nation, whose citizens will long reap the benefits of his wonderful legacy.

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of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend State Representative Nick Lorusso upon the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of his embarking upon a truly remarkable military career, does hereby express to him enduring appreciation for his many years of distinguished military and public service, does hereby record for posterity his vital contributions and his tireless dedication to excellence, does hereby extend to him every good wish for continued success and happiness in his future endeavors, and does hereby recognize the tremendous pride and honor that he brings to his family, to the state of Louisiana, and to the Legislature

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to State Representative Nick Lorusso.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Carmody HR No. 167

Commends Rep. Nick Lorusso on 20 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Army as a JAG Corps officer.