

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 187

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Michael James "Lil Mike" Detraz Jr.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of the state of Louisiana learned of the death of Michael James "Lil Mike" Detraz Jr. on May 27, 2014, at the age of thirty-nine; and

WHEREAS, Michael Detraz graduated from Vermilion Catholic High School in 1992 and completed his agricultural aviation pilot training in Bainbridge, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, he has been an agricultural aviation pilot for over twenty years, having begun his agricultural flight career under the guidance of his mentor, George Sagrera; and

WHEREAS, Michael Detraz owned and operated Detraz Flying Service for several years prior to working for Lewis Broussard; and

WHEREAS, he had been an aerial applicator for T and M Aviation, and was employed by Klondike Aviation as a crop duster at the time of his passing; and

WHEREAS, Michael Detraz was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed flying, fishing, and hunting; and

WHEREAS, his love of hunting was the catalyst to developing JAM Hunting, which catered to numerous hunting adventures locally and in Mexico and Nicaragua; and

WHEREAS, those hunting adventures created lifelong memories for Mike Detraz and his clients, and his friendship and camaraderie will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of ten years, Gabrielle S. Detraz; daughters, Amelia, Jennah, and Madison; parents, Michael "Big Mike" Detraz Sr. and Shawnee LeBlanc Detraz; one sister, Michelle and her husband, Joey Comeaux and their children, Paige and Dilan; and his maternal grandmother, Thelma Moore LeBlanc; and

WHEREAS, he was a gentleman who was admired by all whose lives he touched, leaves behind a rich and unique legacy, and is greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, although the death of Michael James "Lil Mike" Detraz Jr. has left a tremendous void in his community, his memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Michael James "Lil Mike" Detraz Jr., does hereby recognize and record for posterity his accomplishments, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Michael James "Lil Mike" Detraz Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE