

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 155

BY REPRESENTATIVES POPE, ABRAMSON, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, AUBERT, AUSTIN BADON, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARRAS, BARROW, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BROSSETT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOERGE, DOVE, DOWNS, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARDY, HARRISON, HAZEL, HENDERSON, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONORE, HOWARD, HUTTER, HUVAL, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, SAM JONES, KATZ, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MCVEA, MONICA, MONTOUCET, MORENO, MORRIS, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PONTI, PUGH, RICHARD, RICHARDSON, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, ROY, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SIMON, SMILEY, GARY SMITH, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STIAES, TALBOT, TEMPLET, THIBAUT, THIERRY, TUCKER, WHITE, WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOOTON

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Kimberly McElveen Sledge, Fraud Section Investigator with the Louisiana Department of Insurance.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and sincere sorrow that the members of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the untimely death at age forty-four of Kimberly McElveen Sledge, a dedicated state employee who gave her life in the line of duty on June 7, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge, a resident of Denham Springs, began her career working for the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, worked for the Department of Insurance from 1993 to 1997, and returned in October, 2000, to work in its Office of Health, answering consumers' inquiries and responding to consumer complaints; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge subsequently requested that she be transferred to the Fraud Section of the department, motivated by a desire to do even more good for more Louisiana policy holders in a more direct way; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge was loved deeply by her family as well as her fellow employees at the Department of Insurance who unanimously speak only in the highest terms of her as a person and a state employee; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge has also been described as a friendly, outgoing, and caring person and a hard worker who made a difference in state government and who loved and was dedicated to her job; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge was also known for her love of country music, gardening, and animals; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Jim Donelon called Mrs. Sledge's death and that of her coworker, Rhett Jeansonne: "the darkest day in the history of the Department of Insurance"; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bobby Jindal issued an executive order calling for the flags at all state buildings to be flown at half-staff until sunset on Friday, June 10, 2011, in recognition of Mrs. Sledge's and Mr. Jeansonne's dedicated public service and ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, to further recognize these fallen heroes, state law is currently being amended by the Legislature of Louisiana to retroactively provide for their families and to ensure that the families of other state employees will be similarly protected under the same circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Sledge is survived by her husband, John "J.C." Sledge, daughter, Brittany Warren, stepchildren, Averie and Jacob Sledge, and mother, Carol Caston McElveen, as well as a host of other close relatives and friends who will continue to mourn her tragic and untimely death.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its condolences upon the death of Kimberly McElveen Sledge, Fraud Section Investigator with the Louisiana Department of Insurance, who gave her life in the line of duty on June 7, 2011, and does hereby acknowledge her exemplary public service to the citizens of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Kimberly McElveen Sledge.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES