

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY SENATORS MURRAY, ADLEY, WALSWORTH, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Senate staff attorney James Benton for his outstanding service as a member of the Louisiana Army National Guard and for his successful completion of the Judge Advocate General's Corps School.

WHEREAS, James Benton is a native of Lake Charles, Louisiana, earning his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from McNeese University and his Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center; and

WHEREAS, James sharpened his legal skills as he worked first as an attorney for the Calcasieu Association for Retarded Citizens and later as a committee attorney for the Louisiana Senate; and

WHEREAS, James joined the Louisiana Army National Guard, serving with great pride as a member of his state's Reserve Component; and

WHEREAS, in order to better use his military and legal skills, James Benton successfully completed the rigorous, eighteen-week training course necessary to become an officer in the Army National Guard Judge Advocate General's Corps; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant James Benton started his unique, initial officer training at Fort Lee, Virginia, before entering the military legal training at the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps Legal Center at Charlottesville, Virginia, and ultimately completing the rugged leadership training at Fort Benning, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Benton greatly distinguished himself during his military service as legal support for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Legal Support Organization, and as a training officer for Team 15; and

WHEREAS, he also served as the Team Leader for his unit's Coding Team during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom and as a Team Leader for financial issues involving troops headed for overseas deployments; and

WHEREAS, after his JAG Corps training, Lieutenant Benton returned to his position as a Senate staff attorney in the spring of 2012, working on legislative business as lawmakers convened the 2012 Regular Session; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant James Benton's awards and decorations include the United States Army Commendation Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the Armed Services Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Benton's total attention to detail in performing his military duties and his enormous leadership talents displayed in his unit have come to the attention of his superior officers and he appears to be on the right track for another promotion soon, this time to Captain.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its highest commendations to Louisiana Army National Guardsman First Lieutenant James Benton for his successful completion of the United States Army National Guard Judge Advocate General's Corps training and his faithful service to his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to First Lieutenant James Benton.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE