

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of United States Army Captain John Tinsley.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the  
3 family of United States Army Captain John Tinsley upon his death in ground combat  
4 in Afghanistan.

5 WHEREAS, John Tinsley was a native of New Jersey but he was certainly shaped  
6 by his time in Houma, Louisiana, where he was a 1998 graduate of Vanderbilt High School  
7 before entering Florida State University and enrolling in the Reserve Officer Training Corps  
8 Program; and

9 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley received his commission in 2002 after graduation and  
10 was issued orders to report to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division  
11 based at Fort Carson, Colorado; and

12 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley would later be assigned in 2004 to the elite "Old  
13 Guard", 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer, Virginia, where he distinguished  
14 himself as a member of the unit's Honor Guard and continued to sharpen his leadership  
15 skills; and

16 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley would begin his first of three deployments in the Global  
17 War On Terror in 2006, when he served as a member of the Multi-National Corps-Iraq  
18 before entering the highly challenging Special Forces Qualification Course in January 2007;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley earned the coveted "Green Beret" upon his successful  
3 completion of the physically and mentally tough school in January 2009, before he continued  
4 his Spartan training regimen of Ranger School, Airborne Course, Bradley Infantry Fighting  
5 Vehicle Commander's Course, Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Course, and  
6 Infantry Officer Course; and

7 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley would serve an additional tour in the Iraqi Theater of  
8 Operations, where he continued to put to practical use the extensive combat training he had  
9 acquired; and

10 WHEREAS, while his wife, Emily, and daughter, Isabella, waited for him at Fort  
11 Bragg, North Carolina, Captain Tinsley began his next combat assignment as a Special  
12 Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha team commander in Kunar Province, Afghanistan,  
13 as a member of B Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne); and

14 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley was twenty-eight years old and leading a mounted  
15 patrol August 12, 2009, in search of enemy forces reported to be operating in the area when  
16 his vehicle was attacked and he was mortally wounded by an improvised explosive device  
17 detonated nearby; and

18 WHEREAS Captain Tinsley will be sorely missed by those who loved him and those  
19 who served with him, for he was an outstanding husband, father, son, brother and leader of  
20 men; and

21 WHEREAS, Captain Tinsley was heavily decorated for his courageous service,  
22 receiving the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army  
23 Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense  
24 Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War On  
25 Terrorism Service Medal, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Overseas Service  
26 Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Combat Infantryman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab,  
27 and the Special Forces Tab.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
29 does hereby extend it's deepest and most profound condolences to the family of United  
30 States Army Captain John Tinsley for their immeasurable loss and for his brave service to

1 his country.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
3 family of Captain John Tinsley.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

---

DIGEST

Marionneaux

SR No.

Expresses condolences upon the death of U.S. Army Captain John Tinsley.