

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATORS MARIONNEAUX, ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, CHABERT, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CLAITOR, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, ERDEY, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, GUILLORY, HEBERT, HEITMEIER, JACKSON, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MORRELL, MORRISH, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, PETERSON, QUINN, RISER, SHAW, SMITH, THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE