

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 57

BY SENATORS ADLEY, 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, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of United States Marine Corps Corporal Trent William Robert Blankenship while in the service of his country.

WHEREAS, Trent William Robert Blankenship was a native son of Louisiana and like many before him, he decided that he could best serve his country by enlisting in its armed forces; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Trent enlisted in the United States Marine Corps because he wanted to be a part of the legendary branch that has fought around the globe to protect America and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Trent welcomed the physical challenge of basic combat training and the mental toughness that it took to successfully complete some of the harshest military training in the world; and

WHEREAS, Trent thrived in the Spartan conditions of the Marine Corps, earning promotions in rank and learning and excelling in the skills needed to perform the duties of a machine gunner; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Trent Blankenship was deployed on two separate occasions to Operation Enduring Freedom, distinguishing himself with his brave service in 2009 and in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Blankenship was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, stationed at the Marine Corps Base in Camp Lejeune, North

Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Blankenship trained hard and stayed sharp between his combat deployments, earning the respect of the many Marines he served with, always placing his duties above all else; and

WHEREAS, his awards and decorations include the Navy and the Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon and the NATO Medal; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Blankenship was twenty-five years old and proud of the uniform that he wore in the service and protection of his country when his life was cut short on March 10, 2012; and

WHEREAS, his loss to his family, friends and fellow Marines cannot be measured, he is remembered by all who knew him as a brave and patriotic Marine who will now remain forever young.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its most sincere and profound condolences to the family of United States Marine Corps Corporal Trent Blankenship for their pain and for his brave and faithful service to his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his wife, Carly, and his mother, Colleen DeWalt, of Covington, Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE