

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATORS ADLEY, AMEDEE, BAJOIE, BARHAM, BOASSO, BROOME, CAIN, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FIELDS, FONTENOT, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, HEITMEIER, HINES, HOLLIS, JACKSON, JONES, KOSTELKA, LENTINI, MALONE, MARIONNEAUX, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, QUINN, ROMERO, SCHEDLER, SHEPHERD, SMITH, THEUNISSEN AND ULLO

A RESOLUTION

To express the heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Army Sergeant Joshua Madden upon his death in combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Joshua Madden was the son of Jerry and Cindy Madden and a native of Minden, where he grew to manhood and graduated from Minden High School in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden joined the United States Army shortly after finishing high school and excelled in his new duties and responsibilities as a soldier, rising through the ranks and ultimately earning a promotion to non-commissioned officer status, where his talent for leadership truly showed; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden trained with the soldiers of his unit, sharpening the skills that he knew he would need during his expected deployment to Iraq, but never leaving his mind was the fact that his wife, Dani, was far along in her pregnancy and very soon he would be a father; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden and his men were deployed to Iraq in August, 2006, but he soon learned of the birth of his son, Jaxson Levi Madden, in September, and began the process which would grant him special leave to briefly return home and spend an early Christmas in November with family and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden showed great dedication to duty and commitment to his country when he left the warmth, love, and comfort of home once more and returned to his unit and his mission in the Iraqi Theater; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden and the men of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division were patrolling the dangerous streets and roads near the northern city of Kirkuk on December 6, 2006, when they were engaged by heavily armed enemy forces; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the attack, Sergeant Madden and four of his fellow soldiers were mortally wounded as they bravely performed their mission in this nation's War on Terror; and

WHEREAS, while Sergeant Madden's family grieves over the terrible loss of a fine son, loving husband, and dedicated father, they are also filled with a sense of pride over the man, the soldier, the patriot that Josh was; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Madden's family and loved ones have drawn themselves more closely together than ever before as they face the challenge of being strong for a young widow and child whose lives have changed forever; and

WHEREAS, the heroism and sacrifice displayed by Sergeant Madden in his service to his country and in his defense of its freedom will forever be a shining example to us all of the great American spirit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express it's sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of United States Army Sergeant Joshua Barrett Madden and does hereby recognize his outstanding contributions and sacrifices for a grateful state and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Sergeant Joshua Barrett Madden.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE