

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY SENATORS MILLIGAN, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, FOIL, REESE AND TARVER

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state during the last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disasters.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Louisiana National Guard on its exemplary service to the state during the  
3 last two years in an unprecedented time of natural disasters.

4 WHEREAS, during these tumultuous years, the Louisiana National Guard has  
5 performed exemplary work and displayed tremendous dedication through its efforts to  
6 protect the lives and welfare of Louisianians; and

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard fulfills its federal and state missions in  
8 concert with a wide variety of statewide organizations; and

9 WHEREAS, by air, by land, and by water, the Louisiana National Guard knows what  
10 to do in any emergency and it all begins with working as a team; and

11 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard has supported the response to the  
12 pandemic since Covid-19's first known case, March 2020; and

13 WHEREAS, more than nine hundred soldiers and airmen of the Louisiana National  
14 Guard remain activated in response to Covid-19; and

15 WHEREAS, due to the efforts of the Guard, more than four hundred ninety-seven  
16 three hundred fifty-two individuals were tested at twenty-three test sites statewide, two  
17 million three hundred forty-one thousand seven hundred ninety-five food boxes were  
18 distributed, sixty-one million nine hundred thousand items of personal protective equipment

1 (PPE) were delivered, and one hundred ninety thousand two hundred ninety-eight shots were  
2 administered; and

3 WHEREAS, through five waves of the pandemic, the soldiers and airmen of the  
4 Louisiana National Guard have developed new skills that have better prepared the Louisiana  
5 National Guard for future pandemics; and

6 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard stretched itself in every direction,  
7 supporting all missions including food and water distribution, transportation,  
8 communication, public works, engineering, emergency management, mass care, emergency  
9 assistance, logistics management, COVID-19 testing, public safety, security, traffic control,  
10 generators, power supply, and food bank operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Hurricane Laura came ashore in south Louisiana August 27, 2020, as  
12 a Category 4, causing catastrophic flooding and damage; and

13 WHEREAS, more than six thousand two hundred Louisiana National Guard  
14 members were deployed, using two hundred thirty-six high water vehicles, seventy-six boats,  
15 and seventeen helicopters to support hurricane rescue efforts, in addition to over a dozen  
16 engineering teams trained to help move debris and clear roads; and

17 WHEREAS, the Guard helped evacuate more than three hundred fifty-eight people  
18 and twenty-nine pets from affected areas; and

19 WHEREAS, after Hurricane Laura, the Louisiana National Guard distributed more  
20 than five million meals-ready-to-eat, over seven million liters of water, more than one  
21 million bags of ice, and nearly two hundred thousand tarps to victims of the storm; and

22 WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida came ashore in south Louisiana August 29, 2021, as a  
23 Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 150 mph and heavy rainfall, causing catastrophic  
24 flooding and damage; and

25 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard conducted search and rescue sweeps  
26 across thirty-one parishes, rescuing more than three hundred ninety-seven people and  
27 sixty-five pets by the Wednesday after the hurricane and clearing 403 miles of routes  
28 clogged with debris; and

29 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard distributed almost seven million MREs  
30 and almost eight million of water, over one million three hundred thousand bags of ice, over

1 three hundred thousand tarps, and over four hundred generators; and

2 WHEREAS, Guardsmen opened seventeen locations to distribute food and water to  
3 people in need in nine parishes, with plans to operate forty; and

4 WHEREAS, another four hundred guard members were assisting law enforcement  
5 with security in New Orleans and six parishes; and

6 WHEREAS, about four thousand three hundred members of the Louisiana National  
7 Guard were assisting with relief efforts; and

8 WHEREAS, more than one thousand two hundred members of the Louisiana  
9 National Guard helped clear roads and handled logistical support in response to the winter  
10 storm in 2021; and

11 WHEREAS, using four engineer assessment teams and four engineer work teams,  
12 the Louisiana National Guard assessed one hundred thirty-seven miles of road while clearing  
13 one hundred eleven miles of snow and debris from roads in three parishes; and

14 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard also provided seven wreckers to help  
15 Louisiana State Police and state transportation officials clear Interstate 20, moving two  
16 hundred sixty disabled commercial vehicles; and

17 WHEREAS, the Guard also distributed over one million two hundred thousand  
18 one-liter bottles of water to people in parishes affected by the storm and over four hundred  
19 thousand gallons of bulk water to hospitals and other medical centers; and

20 WHEREAS, the Guard provided thirteen generators to six parishes to assist with  
21 water systems; and

22 WHEREAS, the Louisiana National Guard responded to flooding throughout the  
23 state following multiple days of steady rain beginning in May of 2021; and

24 WHEREAS, at the height of the response, the Louisiana National Guard had three  
25 hundred ninety-three Guard members activated to support various missions, including search  
26 and rescue, engineering, and aerial reconnaissance; and

27 WHEREAS, using as many as seventy-nine high-water vehicles and nineteen boats,  
28 Guardsmen rescued twenty-five people and two pets in Lake Charles; and

29 WHEREAS, engineer assessment teams worked with local and state officials to  
30 determine the specific needs of communities to combat rising flood waters, while teams in

