

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

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 to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Esrom "Izzy" Joseph upon his death while serving in his country's armed forces.

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Esrom Joseph, affectionately known to his family and friends as "Izzy", was a native of Opelousas, attending Lawtell Elementary School before he and his family moved to Scott, Louisiana, where he continued his studies at Ossun Elementary and Scott Middle School before graduating from Carencro High on May 21, 2011; and

WHEREAS, ten days after graduation, Lance Corporal Joseph left for basic training with the United States Marine Corps at Paris Island, where he successfully completed the Corp's tough training program; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph had worried throughout his basic training that he might not successfully complete the course because the last portion of the program dealt with a challenging swimming test and he had never mastered swimming; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph passed the Marine Corps swim test, graduated from basic training and was assigned to Camp Lejeune as a mortar-man with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 9<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph was very proud to be a Marine and he wrote to his mother, Brenda Joseph, that by becoming a Marine, he had achieved one of his greatest goals in life, and now all he wanted to do was to serve and fight for his country; and

WHEREAS, over the next year, Lance Corporal Joseph was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2012, Lance Corporal Joseph and some his fellow Marines planned to spend a weekend on the North Carolina coast at Emerald Isle Beach, relaxing and

taking a break from the unrelenting Marine Corps pace; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph told his mother of his plans and she told him that he should wear a life jacket in the ocean, to which he responded that he was no longer fearful of the water because he was a Marine; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph did go swimming with two friends and during that swim, he and the two friends were caught in a vicious rip tide and all began to struggle against being swept out to sea; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph and his friends held on to each other as they struggled but the rip tide proved too strong and caused them to separate; and

WHEREAS, Lance Corporal Joseph was overcome by the dark and powerful currents of the ocean on Saturday, August 11, 2012.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Esrom "Izzy" Joseph for their immeasurable loss and for the service and sacrifice their Marine made for his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Lance Corporal Esrom "Izzy" Joseph.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE