

1 Lorusso also graduated from the University of New Orleans with a degree in history and
2 went on to earn a law degree from the Louisiana State University Law Center in 1992; and

3 WHEREAS, upon graduating from law school, Representative Lorusso was
4 commissioned as an active duty officer in the United States Army JAG Corps, and upon
5 completion of U.S. Airborne School and receiving his Basic Parachutist wings, he was
6 stationed at Fort Drum, New York, with the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) and
7 served as a military prosecutor and special assistant U.S. Attorney; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso was deployed to the Republic of Haiti during
9 OPERATION UPHOLD DEMOCRACY as an International Law and Detention Operations
10 Attorney, and upon returning to New Orleans in 1996 and transferring to the Army Reserves,
11 Representative Lorusso began a general civil defense litigation law practice; and

12 WHEREAS, following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Representative
13 Lorusso was recalled to active duty as part of the global war on terrorism, and in 2004 he
14 was mobilized to serve as Chief of the Legal Assistance Division, III Corps (Rear) at Fort
15 Hood, Texas, where he was deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the Pentagon in
16 Washington, D.C., to serve at the al-Qaida terrorist tribunals; and

17 WHEREAS, after a brief return to civilian law practice, Representative Lorusso was
18 once again called to active duty in 2005, following the devastation caused by Hurricanes
19 Katrina and Rita, and served as the Command Judge Advocate of a hurricane recovery task
20 force at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi, where he assisted more than
21 three thousand two hundred soldiers and their families who lost their jobs or homes, or both,
22 as a result of the hurricanes; and

23 WHEREAS, following a return to civilian law practice, Representative Lorusso was
24 elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in March 2007 in a special election and
25 was reelected for a full four-year term in November of that year, and during his initial term
26 in the House, Representative Lorusso was appointed as Vice Chairman of the Civil Law and
27 Procedure Committee; and

28 WHEREAS, in 2009, Representative Lorusso was recalled to active duty for the third
29 time since September 11, 2001, and took a leave of absence from the Louisiana Legislature

1 while he served as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate of I Corps (Rear) at Fort Lewis in
2 Washington and was second in command of a one hundred thirty person legal office; and

3 WHEREAS, in October 2011, Representative Lorusso was reelected for a second
4 four-year term and was appointed Chairman of the Special Committee on Military and
5 Veterans Affairs and Vice Chairman of the retirement committee, and he also serves on the
6 appropriations committee and the insurance committee, as well as the Joint Legislative
7 Committee on the Budget, the Governor's Military Advisory Committee, and the Battle of
8 New Orleans Bicentennial Commission; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso currently serves in the Army Reserves with the
10 rank of Lieutenant Colonel and will graduate from the United States Army War College in
11 July 2013 with a Masters of Strategic Studies degree; and

12 WHEREAS, over the course of his remarkable military career, Representative
13 Lorusso has been recognized many times for his bravery, dedication, and heroism, including:
14 Meritorious Service Medal (2005), Joint Service Commendation Medal (1994), Army
15 Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters (1996, 2003, 2006, 2013), Joint Service
16 Achievement Medal (2005), Army Achievement Medal (2001), Army Reserve Component
17 Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters (2002, 2005, 2008), National Defense Service
18 Medal with one bronze star (1993, 2004), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (1994),
19 Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (2004), Global War on Terrorism Service
20 Medal (2004), Armed Forces Service Medal (2005), Humanitarian Service Medal with one
21 bronze star (1994, 2005), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (2003), Armed
22 Forces Reserve Medal with one bronze hour glass (2009), "M" Device with "2" device
23 (2004, 2009), Army Service Ribbon (1993), Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon
24 with "3" device (2003, 2006, 2008), Joint Meritorious Unit Award (1994, 2004), and Basic
25 Parachute Wings (1993); and

26 WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso has been married to the love of his life,
27 Michelle, for nineteen years, and they are the proud parents of three children: Nicholas,
28 Sophia, and Katherine; and

29 WHEREAS, Representative Lorusso merits the highest commendation and sincere
30 congratulations for his exemplary term of military service and for his outstanding

1 contributions to the United States Army, to the Louisiana Legislature, and to his state and
2 nation, whose citizens will long reap the benefits of his wonderful legacy.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend State Representative Nick Lorusso upon the
5 occasion of the twentieth anniversary of his embarking upon a truly remarkable military
6 career, does hereby express to him enduring appreciation for his many years of distinguished
7 military and public service, does hereby record for posterity his vital contributions and his
8 tireless dedication to excellence, does hereby extend to him every good wish for continued
9 success and happiness in his future endeavors, and does hereby recognize the tremendous
10 pride and honor that he brings to his family, to the state of Louisiana, and to the Legislature
11 of Louisiana.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
13 to State Representative Nick Lorusso.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Carmody

HR No. 167

Commends Rep. Nick Lorusso on 20 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Army as a JAG Corps officer.