

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 137

BY SENATOR MORRISH

COMMENDATIONS. To commend Stonewell Serrett for his service and dedication to the United States Navy and the state of Louisiana.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To acknowledge with gratitude and commend Stonewell Serrett for his lifelong dedication
3 and service to the United States Navy and the state of Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, Stonewell Serrett was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on
5 November 25, 1924, and lived the majority of his childhood in downtown Baton Rouge; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Serrett enlisted in the United States Navy in September, 1943, to
7 support the American cause in World War II; and

8 WHEREAS, he was trained as a construction electrician for the newly formed U.S.
9 Naval Construction Battalion, which is now known as the Navy Seabees; and

10 WHEREAS, he served as a Seabee in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the
11 Vietnam Conflict; and

12 WHEREAS, during World War II, Mr. Serrett served in the Pacific Theater in the
13 Mariana, Carolina, and Marshall Islands, where his battalion was often among the first forces
14 on the ground; and

15 WHEREAS, they labored and fought to erect roads, airfields, and bases enabling
16 other allied forces to stage assaults and forward the military mission of our nation; and

17 WHEREAS, instead of returning to civilian life after World War II, Mr. Serrett
18 re-enlisted; and

1 WHEREAS, he was then assigned to rebuild the electrical distribution system of a
2 former Japanese airbase in Atsugi, Japan, which would serve as a staging ground for the
3 Korean Conflict; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Serrett was deployed to the combat zone to build a temporary
5 airstrip lighting system to allow American aircraft to safely land in Korea; and

6 WHEREAS, after the Korean Conflict, he served on bases far away from Louisiana,
7 including Bermuda, Morocco, and one of the first NATO bases in Naples, Italy; and

8 WHEREAS, during the Vietnam Conflict, Mr. Serrett served as the training chief of
9 Seabee Battalion No. 8 and served in Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam, with his battalion until
10 he had a stroke and was airlifted to the United States for medical care; and

11 WHEREAS, upon recovering from his lengthy illness, he was instrumental in
12 re-commissioning the Seabee base in Gulfport, Mississippi, and served as the training
13 coordinator for the 20th Naval Construction Regiment until he retired, with the rank of
14 Senior Chief, in March, 1968; and

15 WHEREAS, after his retirement from the Navy and return to Louisiana, Mr. Serrett
16 served as a prison guard at both the Louisiana State Penitentiary and the Elayn Hunt
17 Correctional Center; and

18 WHEREAS, at the age of 91, Mr. Serrett still shows his "Can Do!" attitude by living
19 independently, daily performing lawn care, and regularly attending Sunday School and
20 church services at Plains Presbyterian Church and sporting events at Zachary High School
21 and LSU.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
23 does hereby acknowledge with gratitude and commend Stonewell Serrett for his lifelong
24 dedication and service to the United States Navy and the state of Louisiana.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
26 Stonewell Serrett.

