

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY SENATOR REESE

A RESOLUTION

To commend David W. Gardner on the occasion of his recent promotion to the rank of Major General of the United States Army.

WHEREAS, Major General (MG) David W. Gardner is the commander of Fort Johnson and its Joint Readiness Training Center in Vernon Parish, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1994; and

WHEREAS, prior to 1998, MG Gardner served as an Infantry Platoon Leader, Mortar Platoon Leader, Headquarters Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Logistics Officer in the 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment in the 82nd Airborne Division; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from the Field Artillery Advanced Course, he was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment in the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) where he commanded in Kosovo and in the invasion of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2008, MG Gardner served as a Battalion Executive Officer, Brigade Operations Officer, and Brigade Executive Officer in the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, before assuming command of the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment; and

WHEREAS, he deployed that battalion to Afghanistan in 2012, under the 1st Infantry Division in Regional Command-East; and

WHEREAS, MG Gardner subsequently commanded the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, from 2016 to 2018, and deployed with that command to Europe in support of Atlantic Resolve; and

WHEREAS, after commanding the Operations Group, Joint Readiness Training Center from 2018 to 2020 located at Fort Polk (now known as Fort Johnson), Louisiana, MG Gardner was then assigned as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Operational Test Command located at Fort Hood, Texas, until the summer of 2022; and

WHEREAS, MG Gardner's non-troop assignments include: Strategist on the Army Staff; Division Future Operations Lead Planner; Military Assistant to the Commander, International Security and Assistance Force/US Forces, Afghanistan; and, Instructor at the School of Advanced Military Studies; and

WHEREAS, MG Gardner holds a bachelor's degree in Physics and masters degrees from Harvard University, National Defense University, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; and

WHEREAS, MG Gardner's awards and decorations include the Afghanistan and Iraq Campaign Medals (with six Campaign Stars), Kosovo Campaign Medal, Combat and Expert Infantryman Badges, Ranger Tab, and Master Parachutist Badge; and

WHEREAS, he was recently promoted from Brigadier General (one star) to the rank of Major General (two stars) effective on March 3, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the rank of Major General is the third highest rank an Army soldier can attain in peacetime; and

WHEREAS, MG Gardner's promotion and lifetime of distinguished service to the United States of America, the United States Army, and the state of Louisiana merits recognition, respect, and gratitude of a grateful nation, the citizens of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Senate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate David W. Gardner for his recent promotion from Brigadier General to the rank of Major General of the United States Army.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Major General David W. Gardner.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE