

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY REPRESENTATIVES HONORE AND HAVARD

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend former Marine Corporal Jared Heine of St. Francisville and his military dog, Spike.

WHEREAS, Jared Heine joined the Marines in 2008; his first assignment was to the artillery, where he volunteered to train as an explosives finder; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Heine was paired with Spike, and the two trained for eight months; Spike learned to follow vocal and hand commands from Corporal Heine, how to sniff out explosives, and how to signal the presence of the deadly ordnance; and

WHEREAS, the team of Corporal Heine and Spike arrived in Afghanistan in early 2011 and were assigned to Echo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, where the team located approximately ten explosives and, in the process, saved lives; and

WHEREAS, an explosion of one of the found bombs caused a brain injury that sent Corporal Heine stateside; Spike was paired with a new handler and returned to combat while Corporal Heine recuperated from his injury and was discharged from the military; and

WHEREAS, at the end of Spike's military service, he was sent to a North Carolina facility that provides dogs to police forces; and

WHEREAS, the bond formed between Corporal Heine and Spike was so strong that Mr. Heine yearned to reunite with his canine friend, but because of several reassignments for Spike to the civilian police service, the search required assistance from the organization Boots and Collars, which helps reunite military K-9 handlers and their former dogs, and the Military Working Dogs Facebook page; and

WHEREAS, after months of searching, on February 11, 2015, Mr. Heine and his mother Mary Heine arrived on the steps of the Virginia Capitol where Mr. Heine finally was reunited with his best animal friend, as police and Marines in attendance held back tears of happiness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and extend best wishes to former Marine Corporal Jared Heine and Spike, who were finally reunited; and does hereby express heartfelt thanks to both for their military service to the country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jared Heine.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE