

1 WHEREAS, as World War II began, Mr. Williams came into direct contact with
2 military families in his own community by delivering Western Union telegrams informing
3 Gold Star families of the death of their loved one; and

4 WHEREAS, it was during this time that Mr. Williams observed that consideration
5 and recognition of the families of fallen soldiers was very inadequate; this observation and
6 his personal commitment to veterans and their families throughout the years led Mr.
7 Williams to co-create the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation in 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation is a charitable
9 organization focused on honoring Gold Star families and their fallen heroes by establishing
10 Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments in communities in all fifty states, offering
11 scholarships to Gold Star children, sponsoring outreach events programs, and educating
12 communities about Gold Star families and the sacrifice that these families have endured for
13 our country; and

14 WHEREAS, the activities of the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor
15 Foundation allow Mr. Williams to continue his devotion and commitment to those who serve
16 our country and the Gold Star families who have lost loved ones in combat; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams continues to be honored for his military achievements and
18 efforts, and his actions have again been recently recognized by our military and one of its
19 highest officers as the secretary of the Navy named Expeditionary Sea Base Ship 4, the
20 USNS Hershel "Woody" Williams mobile base sea vessel, which is expected to enter Navy
21 service in early 2018.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Hershel "Woody" Williams for his
24 individual sacrifice to our country and his continued efforts to perpetuate the memory of the
25 sacrifice made by those in the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives for our
26 country, our freedom, and our way of life.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
28 to Hershel "Woody" Williams.

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)]

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2017 Regular Session

Armes

Commends Hershel "Woody" Williams for his military achievements and efforts in recognizing and commemorating the service and devotion of our service members and their families.