

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATORS MARIONNEAUX, ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, CHABERT, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CLAITOR, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, ERDEY, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, GUILLORY, HEBERT, HEITMEIER, JACKSON, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MORRELL, MORRISH, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, PETERSON, QUINN, RISER, SHAW, SMITH, THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Army Private First Class Nicholas James Clayton upon his death on active duty.

WHEREAS, Nicholas James Clayton was a native of Crowley, Louisiana, and later moved to Youngsville, Louisiana, where he was a member of St. Anne's Catholic Church and served as an altar boy; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas would later move again, this time to Florida and later to Georgia as he worked in the construction industry and specialized in roofing work for the next few years; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas eventually moved back to Louisiana where he worked in the oil fields and other jobs as he tried to determine what his true profession would be some day; and

WHEREAS, at the end of 2007, Nicholas reached a thoughtfully considered decision to join the United States Army and pursue training and a military career in the field of medicine; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas made the journey to Fort Sill in Lawton, Oklahoma, on April 28, 2008, to begin his basic combat training, and after six, grueling weeks, successfully completed his initial training; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas headed south to begin his advanced individual training in medicine at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, where he distinguished himself while successfully completing his Emergency Medical Technician licensure exam and earning his army medical badge; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas was soon promoted to Private First Class and stationed at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, Washington, and by Thanksgiving 2008, he and his fellow soldiers had received orders to report to Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, PFC Clayton had reached the Middle East by early, 2009, and spent the next six months serving bravely as a medic in the combat zone before he became eligible for leave time to visit home in October 2009; and

WHEREAS, PFC Clayton decided to spend part of his leave time visiting an old friend who lived in California and was enjoying that visit when he was tragically killed in an automobile accident on October 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, while PFC Clayton's death was a terrible shock for his family and friends, it was also a great comfort to them to know that he had made a profession of faith on January 12, 2008, and received the Lord into his heart; and

WHEREAS, while PFC Clayton will be greatly missed by all who knew, loved and served with him, everyone felt that the brief period Nicholas was granted was filled with great love and fond remembrances.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of United States Army Private First Class Nicholas James Clayton for their great sacrifice and his brave service to his country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of PFC Nicholas James Clayton.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE