

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 98

By Butt

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lance Corporal Andrew Carpenter, United States Marine Corps.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Lance Corporal Andrew Carpenter, a courageous member of the United States Marine Corps who gave his life in service to our nation; and

WHEREAS, following in the patriotic tradition for which our nation's finest sons and daughters are renowned, Lance Cpl. Carpenter was a brave and honorable member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Marine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Carpenter lost his life on February 19, 2011, after suffering fatal injuries while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan's Helmand province; he was twenty-seven years of age; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his death Lance Cpl. Carpenter had been in the theater since the fall of 2010 as a part of his second deployment in Afghanistan. He enlisted to serve in the Marines in 2007; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Columbia Central High School, Andrew Carpenter was a beloved husband, son, and soon-to-be father; he is survived by his parents, Kevin and Cindy Carpenter, and his treasured wife, Crissie Ponder Carpenter, who is expected to give birth to their son, Landon, in the coming days; and

WHEREAS, Lance Cpl. Carpenter's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of family, his fellow soldiers, and his country are exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear and stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, this valiant American leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of this exceptional soldier and human being, the late Lance Corporal Andrew Carpenter, United States Marine Corps, whose loss is mourned by a grateful nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Lance Corporal Andrew Carpenter, a man of impeccable character and limitless courage who stalwartly committed himself to the defense of his nation as a member of the United States Marine Corps.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Lance Cpl. Carpenter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.