

**No. R-14. House concurrent resolution in memory of Specialist Ryan Grady of West Burke.**

(H.C.R.5)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, approximately 1,500 members of the Vermont National Guard were deployed during 2010 to Afghanistan in the Vermont guard's largest overseas deployment since the Second World War, and

Whereas, on Friday morning, July 2, 2010, five members of the Vermont National Guard's Bradford-based Company A Special Troop Battalion were patrolling near Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device, and

Whereas, the resulting explosion seriously injured four of the five Vermont soldiers and killed Private First Class Ryan Grady of West Burke, who was a seven-year military veteran and the first Vermont National Guardsman killed during the Afghanistan deployment and in either Afghanistan or Iraq since 2006, and

Whereas, Private First Class Ryan Grady, who was posthumously promoted to the rank of specialist, was a combat engineer and also a member of the Vermont National Guard's 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and

Whereas, he attended Lake Region Union High School in Orleans before moving to Oklahoma where he graduated from Bristow High School, and

Whereas, in 2003, Ryan Grady enlisted in the United States Army, and during 2005–2006 served our nation as a member of the American military forces in Iraq, and

Whereas, upon his return to the United States in 2006, Private Ryan Grady joined the Vermont National Guard, and after transferring in 2008 to HQ Company 120th engineers in Oklahoma, he returned to the Vermont National Guard in 2009, and

Whereas, the Grady family has a proud tradition of military service in the Vermont National Guard, including Ryan Grady's brother, Kevin Grady, of St. Johnsbury, who was also deployed to Afghanistan, and his father, James Grady, of West Burke, and

Whereas, Specialist Ryan Grady was the proud father of six-year-old Alexis, and other family members include his mother, Debbie Hudacek, of Bristow, Oklahoma and a brother, James, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and

Whereas, the members of the Vermont National Guard's Company A grieved on learning the news of Specialist Ryan Grady's death and were deeply concerned for the well-being of their four injured colleagues as are all Vermonters, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses its profound sympathy to the family and many Vermont National Guard colleagues of Specialist Ryan Grady of West Burke who died serving his state and nation, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Specialist Ryan Grady's daughter, mother, father, and two brothers, and to Vermont National Guard Company A Special Troop Battalion in Bradford.