

2009-J3269

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the untimely death of United States Army Sergeant Aaron M. Smith, and paying tribute to his courageous actions in Afghanistan

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to express sympathy for the loss of a courageous soldier who sacrificed his life while serving in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is deeply moved to mourn the untimely death of United States Army Sergeant Aaron M. Smith, and pay tribute to his courageous actions in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Aaron Smith, 25, of Manhattan, Kansas, died on Friday, October 2, 2009; he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, New York; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Smith served as a fire support specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry); he deployed with 3rd Brigade Combat Team in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; this was his second deployment; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Smith joined the United States Army in May of 2004 and arrived to Fort Drum in September of 2004; he completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Smith's awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, and Combat Action Badge; and

WHEREAS, The freedoms and security we cherish as Americans come at a very high price for those serving in the military in times of conflict; it is fitting and proper that we who are the beneficiaries of those who risk their lives, leaving their families behind, express our appreciation and eternal gratitude for their sacrifices and courageous acts; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Aaron Smith is survived by his mother, Ann Jones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the untimely death of United States Army Sergeant Aaron M. Smith, and pay tribute to his courageous actions in Afghanistan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Sergeant Aaron M. Smith.