



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Danielle Doiron
(225) 342-1773

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LOUISIANA SENATE TO HOLD MILITARY FAMILY DAY IN HONOR OF LOUISIANA'S FALLEN HEROES ON TUESDAY, APRIL 24th

The Louisiana State Senate will hold its 8th Annual Military Family Day to honor Louisiana's Fallen Heroes on Tuesday, April 24th, at 1:00 p.m., during the legislative session in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol.

The following Louisiana soldiers will be honored: Marine Corporal Matthew T. Richard, Army Staff Sergeant Nicholas P. Bellard, Air Force Tech Sergeant Daniel L. Douville, Army Staff Sergeant Michael Jonathan Garcia, Army Sergeant Christopher P. Soderlund, Navy Seal Chief Petty Officer Robert James Reeves, Navy Seal Lieutenant Commander Jonas B. Kelsall, Marine Corporal Trent William Robert Blankenship, Army Captain Aaron D. Istre, National Guardsman Major Heath Kelly, Army Specialist Matthew Wade Comeaux, National Guard Specialist Jordan C. Soulier, and Army Sergeant Jared N. Van Aalst.

Since the 2005 legislative session, the Louisiana Senate has honored 167 fallen soldiers from Louisiana serving in the U.S. military who have sacrificed their lives in defense of our freedoms in Afghanistan and Iraq. This year, these thirteen fallen heroes will be honored with a resolution for each, authored and read by Senator Robert Adley (R-Benton), a veteran of the Vietnam War and United States Marine Corps, and will be passed by the entire membership during the legislative session. Each resolution will be given to the soldier's family along with a state flag. The ceremony will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Chamber, and a balloon release will be held immediately following the program on the steps of the State Capitol. The families of the fallen soldiers and all military families are invited and encouraged to attend.

Senator Adley commented, "Military Family Day is a very special day here in the Louisiana Senate where we officially recognize and honor our brave military heroes killed defending our rights and freedoms. We want to make sure that our military families know that we have not forgotten and will never forget the sacrifices made by them and their loved ones."

For more information or to learn more about the resolutions honoring Louisiana's fallen heroes go to <http://senate.la.gov> and click on the Support Our Troops symbol or contact Danielle Doiron at 225-342-1773.

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