

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Staff
2 Sergeant Abigail R. Milam.

3 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam, a Kentucky native, was born to April
4 Elkins on August 19, 1984, in Whitesburg, Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam was a 2001 graduate of Letcher County's
6 Fleming Neon High School and studied at Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical
7 College; and

8 WHEREAS, in August of 2011, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam attended Basic
9 Combat Training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma and then attended Advanced Individual
10 Training at Fort Eustis in Virginia where she became a UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopter
11 Repairman; and

12 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam was assigned to the U.S. Army Air
13 Ambulance Detachment at Fort Polk in Louisiana where she served as a crew chief on the
14 LUH-72 Lakota; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2016, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam served with the 25th Combat
16 Aviation Brigade where she was assigned to Bravo Company, 209th Aviation Support
17 Battalion at Wheeler Army Airfield in Hawaii as a Technical Inspector and Team Chief;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam's most recent assignment was with
20 Alpha Company, 2-25th Aviation Regiment, where she served as a Flight Instructor and
21 Platoon Sergeant; and

22 WHEREAS, on the night of August 15, 2017, two Black Hawk helicopter crews
23 were conducting training off the western tip of Oahu when one aircrew lost contact with
24 the other. A multi-agency team searched more than 72,000 nautical miles but saw no
25 signs of the crew that went missing; and

26 WHEREAS, following a two week search conducted by the U.S. Army, Coast
27 Guard, Navy, and local agencies, the Armed Forces Medical Examiner determined that

1 DNA on debris recovered from the crash matched that of Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the life of Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam, and the four other crew
4 members were cut short, leaving a void that cannot be filled; and

5 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam's military career was marked with
6 honors and achievement that include: the Army Commendation Medal, the Army
7 Achievement Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal with two loops, the National
8 Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Non-
9 Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 2, the Army
10 Service Ribbon, the Army's Meritorious Service Medal, and the Basic Aviation Badge;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Abigail Milam was preceded in death by her mother,
13 April Yates Elkins, and grandfather, Donald Yates, and is survived by her wife, Tiffany
14 Milam, grandmother, Patsy Yonts, sisters, Alpha Hall and Holly Baker, and nieces,
15 Emma and Allie Baker; and

16 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that this brave soldier receive recognition for
17 paying the ultimate sacrifice for her country;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
20 *Kentucky:*

21 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby express their most profound condolences
22 upon the passing of Staff Sergeant Abigail R. Milam to her family, friends, and
23 community in this time of loss.

24 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
25 memory of Staff Sergeant Abigail R. Milam.

26 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
27 Resolution to the office of Senator Johnny Ray Turner for delivery.