

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 SENATE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 12

By: Corn

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution praising the heroism of
8 Sergeant Buddy Hughie; mourning his loss; and
9 directing distribution.

10
11 WHEREAS, Buddy James Hughie was born on October 23, 1981, in
12 Carlsbad, New Mexico. He and his sister were adopted by their
13 grandparents and grew up in Poteau, Oklahoma. A 2000 graduate of
14 Poteau High School, he was in the show choir and band. Buddy was a
15 piano player and was church pianist at the Poteau Valley Baptist
16 Church. Buddy enjoyed being in community plays and being active in
17 his church. He was also an athlete who played baseball. He was a
18 young man who thoroughly enjoyed life; and

19 WHEREAS, Buddy Hughie participated in Junior Officers Training
20 Corps and attended ROTC summer programs before graduating from high
21 school. He joined the military as soon as he was eligible and
22 planned to make it his career; and

1 WHEREAS, after Buddy Hughie moved to South Carolina, he married
2 Alexis Callegan of Charleston. Their son Cooper was born last
3 October; and

4 WHEREAS, Sergeant Hughie's first deployment was in 2002 with an
5 engineer unit from South Carolina. He also deployed for 45 days to
6 New Orleans, Louisiana, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

7 While there, his unit helped save the life of a woman who had been
8 trapped in her house for almost two weeks. Having already deployed
9 overseas once, Sergeant Hughie was not required to deploy to

10 Afghanistan with the 1st Battalion, 180th Infantry, but his sense of
11 service and duty prevailed and he volunteered to return to
12 Afghanistan. The unit deployed to Afghanistan last summer as part

13 of a multinational task force supporting Operation Enduring Freedom
14 in Afghanistan by training members of the Afghan National Army; and
15 WHEREAS, Sergeant Hughie and members of the 180th Infantry were

16 tasked with providing security for trainers and trainees and were
17 conducting a joint mission with the Afghan National Army and the
18 United States Army 10th Mountain Division in Nuristan Province,

19 Afghanistan, when they came under small arms and rocket-propelled
20 grenade fire. Sergeant Hughie, who planned to become an Emergency
21 Medical Technician (EMT), had left his protected position to provide

22 medical aid to two wounded Afghan Army soldiers when the 25-year-old
23 was shot and killed at approximately 10:00 a.m. Monday, February 19,
24 2007. This was the first time in more than a century that the 180th

1 Infantry Regiment, headquartered in Durant, Oklahoma, had lost a
2 soldier in combat; the second service member from Poteau, Oklahoma,
3 to die in the war; and the fourth military death for LeFlore County;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry described Sergeant Hughie
6 as "a testament to the best of Oklahoma and the best of America."

7 On Wednesday, February 21, 2007, the Oklahoma State Senate paused
8 for a moment of silence in honor of the fallen Army National
9 Guardsman. A memorial service for Sergeant Hughie was held Sunday
10 afternoon, February 25th, at the Poteau High School Gymnasium,
11 Sherman Floyd Fieldhouse.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
13 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
14 CONCURRING THEREIN:

15 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature praises the heroism,
16 courage, and sacrifice of Oklahoma Army National Guard Sergeant
17 Buddy Hughie.

18 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature mourns the loss of this
19 energetic and enthusiastic young man and offers its most sincere
20 condolences to the family, friends, and military compatriots of
21 Sergeant Buddy Hughie, a community, state, and national hero.

22 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Sergeant Buddy
23 Hughie's wife, Alexis Callegan Hughie; son, Cooper Hughie; parents,
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1 Kenneth and Delores (Rogers) Hughie; mother, Julie Hicks; brother,
2 Dennis Hicks; and sister, Jennifer Michelle Claiborn.

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