

HR 9127

2006

## House Resolution

A resolution honoring the life and death of Sergeant Michael D. Rowe.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Michael D. Rowe, of New Port Richey, Florida, died in Rutbah, Iraq, on March 28, 2006, one day before his 24th birthday, and

WHEREAS, Sgt. Rowe, the only fatality of a roadside explosion near his Humvee as he was leading a convoy during combat operations, was assigned to the 46th Engineer Battalion, Warrior Brigade, out of Fort Polk, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, after graduating Gulf High School in 2001, Michael enlisted in the National Guard, joined the United States Army after the September 11 terrorist attacks, and only recently reenlisted for another four years with plans to make the Army his career, plans that ended abruptly when the sergeant became the 116th soldier from Florida to give his life in Iraq, and

WHEREAS, it was not until shortly after Sgt. Rowe deployed to Iraq in October 2005 to begin his second tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom that his wife, Rebecca, learned she was carrying their first child, news that grew increasingly exciting as time revealed that a little girl, lovingly known to the young couple as Nevaeh Elizabeth Rowe, "Heaven" spelled backward, is expected to arrive on July 12, and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2006, after his family was presented with a purple heart and bronze star, Sergeant Michael D. Rowe was laid to rest with full military honors in the Florida National Cemetery near Bushnell, his grave marker bearing the

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29 inscription that succinctly sums up the brief life of this  
30 fallen hero: "He lived with Honor," NOW, THEREFORE,

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32 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
33 Florida:

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35 That, in a spirit of genuine gratitude mixed with sadness,  
36 the House of Representatives proudly honors the life and death  
37 of Sgt. Michael D. Rowe and extends its heartfelt condolences to  
38 his wife, Rebecca, his parents, Dave and Marcy, his sisters,  
39 Megan, Kellie Hess, and Danielle Rowe-Summer, his extended  
40 family, and the many, many friends and comrades who mourn his  
41 death.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  
43 presented to Rebecca, wife of Sergeant Michael D. Rowe, as a  
44 tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.