

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY LARSON, ZAUN, ZIEMAN, MULDER, LUNDBY, WARD,
BRUNKHORST, JOHNSON, BOETTGER, ANGELO, LAMBERTI,
IVERSON, BEHN, GASKILL, MCKINLEY, SEYMOUR, PUTNEY,
TINSMAN, WIECK, HAHN, KETTERING, MILLER, MCKIBBEN,
WARNSTADT, BLACK, DOTZLER, HORN, RIELLY, HANCOCK,
WOOD, SCHOENJAHN, KIBBIE, GRONSTAL, QUIRMBACH,
CONNOLLY, STEWART, BEALL, RAGAN, HATCH, KREIMAN,
DVORSKY, DANIELSON, DEARDEN, MCCOY, and FRAISE

A Resolution honoring Sergeant Major (Select) Brad Kasal
for his rare courage and inspiring sacrifice in the
Iraq war.

WHEREAS, for over 200 years the Marines of the
United States Marine Corps have been known for their
bravery and devotion to duty; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Brad Kasal has proven his
ability and displayed those qualities in serving our
nation in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Brad Kasal grew up on a
farm near Afton, Iowa, hunted and fished as a kid,
wrestled and played football in high school,
detasseled corn and managed a restaurant to earn
money; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Brad Kasal knew he wanted
to be a Marine in the eighth grade, joined the Marine
Corps straight out of East Union High School and
excelled in marksmanship and physical fitness in boot
camp; and

WHEREAS, in his 20 years of military service,
Sergeant Major Kasal did tours of duty in nearly 50

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1 foreign lands, including Operation Desert Storm in
2 Kuwait, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and
3 Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

4 WHEREAS, during the early part of Operation Iraqi
5 Freedom Sergeant Major Kasal earned a Purple Heart for
6 wounds he suffered from enemy action but in his own
7 words, he "gutted it out and kept going like a lot of
8 Marines do", and he returned to duty and even
9 volunteered for a second tour of duty because he was a
10 leader and he felt he belonged with his young Marines;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, on November 13, 2004, during fierce
13 fighting in Fallujah, Iraq, he vowed to leave no
14 Marine behind, returned to save three wounded soldiers
15 trapped in a house crawling with insurgents, received
16 seven serious wounds from an automatic rifle, received
17 40 shrapnel wounds from an exploding grenade when he
18 shielded another Marine with his body and neglected
19 his own injuries to treat his fellow soldier, lost 60
20 percent of his body's blood without losing
21 consciousness, and did all this while guarding the
22 door and without loosening the grip on his gun; and

23 WHEREAS, as a result of those wounds, Sergeant
24 Major Kasal spent 35 days over the holidays bedridden
25 and another 30 days at the Navy Hospital in Bethesda,
26 Maryland, endured 20 surgeries and expects a full
27 recovery because in his own words, "I'm a Kasal and
28 we're tough"; and

29 WHEREAS, in recognition for his heroism, sacrifice,
30 and devotion to duty Sergeant Major Kasal is under

1 consideration for the Congressional Medal of Honor,
2 America's highest award for bravery; and

3 WHEREAS, Iowa Families United for Our Troops and
4 Their Mission stands with steadfast support for
5 Sergeant Major Kasal and all men and women serving to
6 protect the freedom for all Americans, for the
7 families of our service men and women, and for the
8 families of our fallen heroes; NOW THEREFORE,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate, on
10 behalf of all 3 million fellow Iowans and Iowa
11 Families United for Our Troops and Their Mission,
12 honors Sergeant Major Brad Kasal for his "Iowa
13 Toughness and Tenacity", his patriotic service to
14 America, his devotion to the highest principles of
15 military service, and his undaunted courage under
16 hostile fire; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon adoption, an
18 official copy of this Resolution be prepared for
19 presentation to Sergeant Kasal so that he knows
20 without a doubt that Iowans are proud of him and his
21 fellow troops and look forward to welcoming him back
22 home when his military service is concluded.

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