

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE TRUE MEANING AND HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY, TO HONOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO

WHEREAS, Memorial Day is a solemn national observance dedicated to honoring the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in service to this nation; and

WHEREAS, the origins of Memorial Day trace back to the years following the Civil War, including commemorative observances organized by formerly enslaved African Americans and Black servicemen to honor fallen Union soldiers, helping establish a national tradition of remembrance and gratitude; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day was formally recognized as a federal holiday through the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, signed into law by President Richard Nixon, with the observance officially taking effect in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day serves as an opportunity for Americans of all backgrounds to reflect upon the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and to educate future generations about the cost of liberty and the enduring importance of military service; and

WHEREAS, the Caddo Parish Commission recognizes the importance of promoting respectful observances, educational programming, patriotic ceremonies, historical awareness, and community engagement that uplift the true spirit and meaning of Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, the Commission further recognizes and honors the American service members who have recently lost their lives during the current conflict involving Iran, including those publicly identified as:

- Captain Cody A. Khork, age 35
- Sergeant First Class Noah L. Tietjens, age 42
- Sergeant First Class Nicole M. Amor, age 39
- Sergeant Declan J. Coady, age 20
- Major Jeffrey R. O'Brien, age 45
- Lance Corporal Kevin Melendez
- Sergeant Benjamin N. Pennington, age 26
- Major John A. Klinner, age 33
- Captain Ariana G. Savino, age 31
- Technical Sergeant Ashley B. Pruitt, age 34
- Captain Seth R. Koval, age 38
- Captain Curtis J. Angst, age 30
- Technical Sergeant Tyler H. Simmons, age 28; and

WHEREAS, the Commission extends its deepest condolences and gratitude to the families, loved ones, and fellow service members of all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, legal, and regular session convened, that the Commission hereby encourages federal, state, and local agencies, educational institutions, veterans organizations, civic groups, and community leaders to promote public education regarding the history, significance, and proper observance of Memorial Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission encourages citizens to participate in ceremonies, moments of remembrance, visits to memorial sites and cemeteries, patriotic programs, and acts of service that honor the memory of America's fallen heroes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission reaffirms its unwavering support for the men and women of the United States Armed Forces, veterans, Gold Star families, and all those who continue to preserve the freedoms enjoyed by the American people.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.