

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senator Josh Revak

Session Contact

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3879
Sen.Joshua.Revak@akleg.gov



Interim Contact

1500 W. Benson Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 269-0222
alaskasenate.org

Sponsor Statement

SCR 11

This resolution awards the Alaska Decoration of Honor to SPC. Gabriel David Conde, a paratrooper stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson who lost his life in the line of duty on April 30, 2018 while honorably serving our state and country in Afghanistan.

The Alaska Decoration of Honor is awarded to military service members from Alaska, or those service members deployed while stationed in Alaska, who are killed serving our nation abroad. The Legislature must authorize the award by resolution, so the decoration can be presented to the recipients' survivors.

Conde was raised in Colorado and graduated from Berthoud High School in 2014. He was known there as an intelligent and adventurous student, who competed in track and field for the school's team, the "Spartans." After graduation, he attended the Colorado School of Mines for a year, before heeding his personal call to military service by enlisting in the U.S. Army. His unit is part of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the 25th Infantry Division, which is also known as "The Spartans" for their fierceness in battle, their love of their homeland, and their devotion to duty.

This "spartan" was killed by small arms fire in eastern Afghanistan's Tagab District, only a few weeks away from rotation back to Alaska. This was Conde's first overseas deployment, during which he, along with his comrades, supported Operation Freedom Sentinel. The mission of the United States and its allies to maintain a limited military presence to train, advise and assist Afghan forces and to conduct counter-terrorism operations against the remnants of Al Qaeda.

Passage of SCR 11 will allow Conde's family to receive the decoration in honor of their loved one's sacrifice. While it is our fervent hope that all those in uniform will return home safely, the reality is that a few will not. It is our obligation, and our privilege, to authorize this decoration in honor of one of these national heroes, SPC. Gabriel David Conde.