

House Resolution 79

By: Representatives Rogers of the 10th, Holcomb of the 81st, Hitchens of the 161st, Evans of the 42nd, and Coomer of the 14th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol for their service to the citizens of Georgia
2 and recognizing February 1, 2017, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the state capitol; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Civil Air Patrol was founded on December 1, 1941, as an organization of
5 volunteers to assist the United States military in national defense by performing aerial coastal
6 patrols and emergency services within the continental United States; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1943, the capabilities of this new volunteer organization were recognized as
8 vital to this country's national defense, and by Presidential Executive Order, the Civil Air
9 Patrol was assigned to the War Department and was subsequently chartered by Congress to
10 perform three distinct missions: emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet
11 programs; and

12 WHEREAS, the Civil Air Patrol air and ground teams perform over 90 percent of inland
13 search and rescue missions tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center; and

14 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol consists of over 1,900 volunteer
15 members in 45 squadrons and four groups located throughout this state; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing squadrons have been awarded the National Squadron of
17 Distinction in 2008 and 2009, the Southeast Region Squadron of Distinction in 2010, and
18 numerous other awards for counter drug, emergency services, and cadet programs; and

19 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing members are an intricate component of this country's national
20 defense who volunteer their services, time, and resources to actively support the Civil Air
21 Patrol by conducting missions in homeland security, disaster relief emergency services,
22 search and rescue, counter drug, aerospace education, and cadet programs; and

23 WHEREAS, their contributions to this state are constantly evidenced through their efforts
24 to locate missing aircrafts and people in Georgia, to locate and silence numerous activated
25 distress beacons, to conduct "Sundown Patrols" in South Georgia, and to conduct joint
26 exercises with local emergency agencies throughout this state; and

27 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing volunteers also supported the Governor's Task Force for Drug
28 Suppression and other antidrug efforts, honored more than 15,000 of Georgia's fallen soldiers
29 through the Wreaths Across America initiative, and introduced hundreds of Georgia youth
30 to aviation through the flight orientation programs; and

31 WHEREAS, the estimated value of the Georgia Wing members' volunteer hours is almost
32 immeasurable; and

33 WHEREAS, these "flying minutemen" of the Civil Air Patrol have, since the program's
34 inception, consistently provided this state with invaluable emergency services, aerospace
35 education, and cadet programs.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body commend the volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol for their service to
38 the citizens of Georgia and recognize February 1, 2017, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the state
39 capitol.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
41 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
42 Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.