



Introduced Version

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**HOUSE  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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*Introduced by: Pressel, Speedy*

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1           A HOUSE RESOLUTION designates May as General  
2           Aviation Appreciation Month.

3           *Whereas, In 1939, several significant events took place to*  
4           *usher in a new era of general aviation that would solidify its*  
5           *important place in American society;*

6           *Whereas, American general aviation industry transitioned*  
7           *from the "Golden Age" to full mobilization for World War II,*  
8           *during which the airplane changed from a slow,*  
9           *wood-and-fabric biplane to a fast, sleek, all-metal monoplane;*

10          *Whereas, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the*  
11          *Civilian Pilot Training Act, which provided a needed boost to*  
12          *general aviation by providing pilot training to 20,000 college*  
13          *students each year. At the peak of the Civilian Pilot Training*  
14          *Program, 1,132 educational institutions and 1,460 flight*

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1 *schools participated in the program;*

2 *Whereas, President Roosevelt also established National*  
3 *Aviation Day in 1939 to celebrate Orville Wright's birthday;*

4 *Whereas, The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association*  
5 *(AOPA) was founded to protect the freedom to fly while keeping*  
6 *general aviation safe, fun, and affordable. Today, AOPA is the*  
7 *largest and most trusted resource for all things related to*  
8 *general aviation;*

9 *Whereas, Today, the U.S. general aviation industry is*  
10 *composed of more than 200,000 aircraft, safely flies over 26*  
11 *million flight hours, and registers 30 million safe takeoffs and*  
12 *landings per year;*

13 *Whereas, General aviation contributes over \$247 billion in*  
14 *economic impact and supports 1.2 million jobs across the*  
15 *country, and often serves as a vital lifeline for communities*  
16 *through missions of disaster relief, humanitarian aid, law*  
17 *enforcement, and agricultural support;*

18 *Whereas, Over 650,000 registered pilots in the United States*  
19 *access more than 5,100 public use airports and another 14,000*  
20 *privately owned airfields, more than any other country in the*  
21 *world. These pilots and airports connect communities across*  
22 *America with the National Air Transportation system;*

23 *Whereas, General aviation is safer than it has ever been.*  
24 *General aviation safety performance has greatly improved over*  
25 *the last several decades, with the fatal accident rate, a*  
26 *traditional measuring stick, lowering to 0.73 per 100,000 flight*  
27 *hours, a historic record. That's less than half of what it was in*  
28 *the mid-1990s;*

29 *Whereas, Over the last 85 years, our citizens have marveled*  
30 *at the continual technological advancements in general*  
31 *aviation that have improved our lives, enabled access to*  
32 *communities across the country, created hundreds of billions of*  
33 *dollars in economic impact and growth, and propelled the U.S.*  
34 *as the world leader in general aviation;*



1        *Whereas, People travel from around the world to access the*  
2        *exceptional training and the freedom in this country to fly*  
3        *general aviation aircraft. Foreign governments send their pilots*  
4        *here for critical training to fly their most prominent dignitaries*  
5        *and to train for careers in the airlines;*

6        *Whereas, Americans Orville and Wilbur Wright first*  
7        *harnessed powered flight at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina,*  
8        *and Charles Lindbergh became the most famous person the*  
9        *world had ever known when he departed U.S. soil in an*  
10       *American-built aircraft to cross the Atlantic, providing a deep*  
11       *source of American pride and identity;*

12       *Whereas, The state of Indiana has 5,120 registered general*  
13       *aviation aircraft, 13,300 certificated pilots, and 128 public-use*  
14       *facilities; and*

15       *Whereas, General aviation brings over \$1.4 billion in*  
16       *economic activity and supports 11,280 jobs to the state of*  
17       *Indiana according to the State Aviation System Plan:*  
18       *Therefore,*

19                *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*  
20                *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

21        SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
22        recognizes that the national celebration of the General Aviation  
23        Flyover in Washington, D.C., presents a tremendous  
24        opportunity to seize the public imagination, reflect on our  
25        ability to safely achieve innovative technological  
26        advancements, and be a defining moment in remembering the  
27        past, present, and future significance of general aviation in the  
28        United States.

29        SECTION 2. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
30        designates May 2024 as General Aviation Appreciation Month  
31        to commemorate the last 85 years in general aviation.

32        SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of  
33        Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State  
34        Representative Jim Pressel for distribution.

