

SENATE RESOLUTION

8717

By Senators Honeyford, Angel, Cleveland, O'Ban, Miloscia, Chase, Conway, Becker, Baumgartner, Pearson, Rivers, Bailey, Dammeier, Padden, Parlette, King, Dansel, Hobbs, Fain, Benton, Takko, Litzow, Rolfes, Warnick, Billig, Nelson, Hill, Braun, Schoesler, Sheldon, Fraser, Mullet, Ericksen, Brown, Hewitt, and Hargrove

1 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol has now been in commission for 75
2 years, since December 1, 1941, just days before the attack on Pearl
3 Harbor, for the purpose of liaison flying and interdiction of
4 infiltrators on the East Coast and southern border of the United
5 States, and thereafter the Civil Air Patrol insignia, a red three-
6 bladed propeller in the Civil Defense white-triangle-in-blue-circle,
7 began appearing; and

8 WHEREAS, When German submarines began to prey on American ships,
9 the Civil Air Patrol's mission grew to include a 1,000-member coastal
10 patrol, 64 of whom died in service and 26 of whom were lost at sea;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, After a crew was forced to watch in vain as a grounded
13 submarine off Cape Canaveral, Florida escaped before the military
14 arrived, Civil Air Patrol planes were issued bombs and depth charges,
15 and thereafter the Civil Air Patrol coastal patrol flew 24 million
16 miles and found 173 submarines, ultimately attacking 57, hitting 10,
17 and sinking 2; and

18 WHEREAS, By presidential executive order, the Civil Air Patrol
19 became an auxiliary of the United States Army Air Forces on April 28,
20 1943, and several months later the Germans withdrew coastal U-boat
21 operations "because of those damned little red and yellow airplanes";
22 and

1 WHEREAS, During the postwar years, the Civil Air Patrol was put
2 to work in search and rescue missions, saving the United States
3 millions of dollars in operational costs as the only organization
4 with the equipment and training to perform this vital job, with
5 military aircraft being far too expensive to operate and flying too
6 fast to accurately spot downed planes and personnel; and

7 WHEREAS, During the deadly 2014 Oso mudslide, the Civil Air
8 Patrol flew vital supplies to areas unreachable by heavier aircraft,
9 and ground teams helped to evacuate cities and towns; and

10 WHEREAS, The Civil Air Patrol has a cadet program with over
11 23,000 participants between the ages of 12 and 20, one of its major
12 attractions being its aerospace program, which provides both
13 classroom and practical instruction in flight and rocketry, and
14 offers each cadet the opportunity to participate in orientation
15 flights in both powered and glider aircraft while learning search and
16 rescue techniques and other valuable skills, emphasizing military
17 history, leadership, and service within the squadron and to the
18 community as a whole; and

19 WHEREAS, Over 16,000 students in kindergarten through 6th grade
20 completed the Aerospace Connections in Education program developed by
21 the Civil Air Patrol and the United States Air Force; and

22 WHEREAS, Today's Civil Air Patrol continues its service and
23 commitment to our state and country with three primary missions:
24 Aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services; and

25 WHEREAS, The Washington Wing's commitment to service includes two
26 nationally recognized leaders, Lieutenant Colonel Dave Franklin, the
27 Chaplain of the year in 2014 and Senator (and Lieutenant Colonel) Jim
28 Honeyford, Legislative Squadron Commander of the Year in 2015, along
29 with the many senior members and cadets; and

30 WHEREAS, In Washington State alone, the Civil Air Patrol is
31 composed of approximately 732 senior members and 624 cadets, who flew
32 their 14 aircraft 1,835 hours in 2015 alone in service to our state,
33 at a value of 4.4 million dollars in volunteer hours; and

34 WHEREAS, The Washington Wing was ranked first for hours flown per
35 aircraft among all wings in the Civil Air Patrol Pacific Region,
36 which includes wings from Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon,
37 and Washington, and was ranked 14th for hours flown per wing out of
38 the 57 Civil Air Patrol units nationwide; and

39 WHEREAS, The Mt. Rainier composite squadron, having won multiple
40 accolades over the last few years and representing their division as

1 well as the state wing of the Civil Air Patrol, have volunteered
2 their time to present the colors;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
4 recognize the Washington State wing of the Civil Air Patrol for its
5 courageous and unwavering dedication to our citizens; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
7 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to Colonel
8 James P. Furlong, Commander of the Civil Air Patrol Washington Wing.

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