

House Resolution 120EX2

By: Representative Smith of the 169th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the late Douglas H. Davis, Jr. and urging the City of Atlanta to establish a
2 memorial to this aviator at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the late Douglas H. Davis, Jr. was a pioneer in the field of commercial aviation
4 and contributed substantially to Atlanta's early achievements in air service, and this native
5 Georgian was inducted in the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame on May 18, 1991; and

6 WHEREAS, he quit high school in Barnesville, Georgia, to join the U.S. Army Air Service
7 during World War I and was commissioned as the youngest pilot and promoted to second
8 lieutenant, but dreams of combat duty were dashed by assignment as an instructor; and

9 WHEREAS, discharged in 1919, he began a career of barnstorming, flight schools, and
10 testing and promoting of aircraft, and he excelled in the Cleveland National Air Races and
11 cross country competitions where he set speed records that marked a new era in aviation; and

12 WHEREAS, Orville Wright signed his aviation license and he flew Eastern Air Lines' first
13 passenger flight from Atlanta to New York on December 10, 1930, and won the Bendix cross
14 country race and the Unlimited Shell Speed Dash only to crash in the Thompson Trophy
15 Race and die at the age of 33; and

16 WHEREAS, he birthed the aviation industry in Atlanta with the first hangar on Candler Field
17 and offered Atlanta's first air training school and first charter service, and it is appropriate
18 that this brilliant pioneer be properly honored at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 this body recognizes the tremendous contributions made by aviation pioneer Douglas H.
21 Davis, Jr. and urges the governing authority of the City of Atlanta to honor the man and his
22 accomplishments at an appropriate location in Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Douglas H.
- 3 Davis, Jr.