

Senate Bill 33

By: Senators Thomas of the 2nd, Hill of the 4th and Johnson of the 1st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to other state symbols, so as to designate The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage
3 Museum as an official State of Georgia center for character education; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum is a living memorial created
6 to honor the more than one million personnel who have served in the United States Eighth
7 Air Force since it was organized in Savannah, Georgia, in 1942; and

8 WHEREAS, the Eighth Air Force was established during the early days of World War II to
9 provide the strategic air force essential to save Europe; and

10 WHEREAS, the original Eighth Air Force included 65 Heavy Bombardment Groups, 20
11 Fighter Groups, 3 Air Divisions, 4 major headquarters, and a support command with supply,
12 maintenance, and repair depots throughout the United Kingdom; and

13 WHEREAS, The Mighty Eighth Air Force was the largest, most publicized of all of the air
14 forces and was engaged in the most vicious air combat for the longest sustained period of
15 time out of all the other major air components in this country; and

16 WHEREAS, The Mighty Eighth won the air war over Europe and made the successful
17 invasion of Europe possible, and it had no peer in any category of combat activity and
18 suffered the greatest losses of brave young men who were never turned back by enemy
19 action; and

20 WHEREAS, some 350,000 men and women served in the Eighth Air Force during World
21 War II and contributed to the greatest and most spectacular air campaigns in aviation history;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum emphasizes the teaching of
2 character education through the numerous examples of courage, spirit, and sacrifice shown
3 by the members of the Eighth Air Force; and

4 WHEREAS, the museum is a resource partner of the Georgia Center for Character Education
5 and character education programming at the museum serves as a pilot program for other
6 museums throughout this state.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to other
10 state symbols, is amended by adding at the end thereof a new Code Section 50-3-79 to read
11 as follows:

12 "50-3-79.

13 The Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum is designated as an official State of
14 Georgia center for character education."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.