

## House Resolution 26

By: Representative O`Neal of the 146<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2007 as The Year of Aviation in Georgia and recognizing Ben Epps as the  
2 father of aviation in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on October 20, 1907, Mr. Ben Epps flew the first flight in Georgia in a  
4 personally designed and built aircraft near Athens, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, aviation in Georgia has played an important part of the everyday lives of every  
6 world citizen, and Georgians continue to play a role in leading the future of aerospace  
7 throughout the world; and

8 WHEREAS, the state of Georgia is home to Lockheed Martin Corporation, the world's  
9 largest manufacturer of military cargo and fighter aircraft; Gulfstream Aerospace, a  
10 world-class manufacturer of corporate, business, and commuter aircraft; Delta Air Lines and  
11 AirTran Airways, world leaders in commercial passenger air service, and Robins Air Force  
12 Base, home of one of the largest aircraft sustainment, maintenance, repair, and overhaul  
13 centers in the world; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia's colleges and universities, technical colleges, and flight schools  
15 continue to produce leading aviation professionals to foster the continued growth and  
16 contribution of aerospace for the world community; and

17 WHEREAS, the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia, is the second largest  
18 aviation museum in the U.S. Air Force and the fourth largest aviation museum in the United  
19 States; and the Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame provides a living record of the historical role  
20 of Georgia aviation and the Georgians who bravely led the world through aviation  
21 achievements; and

22 WHEREAS, this body is exceedingly proud of our state, its people, its resources, and  
23 Georgia's contributions to the development of aerospace; and

1 WHEREAS, this body supports the efforts of Georgia's public and private aviation industry.

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
3 this body recognizes 2007 as The Year of Aviation in Georgia in tribute to 100 years of flight  
4 in this state and recognizes Ben Epps as the father of aviation in Georgia.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
6 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available as appropriate to encourage and  
7 promote the observation of 2007 as The Year of Aviation in Georgia.