

House Resolution 586

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Evans of the 40th, Parrish of the 156th, Huckaby of the 113th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Congress to refrain from cuts to the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter
2 program; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as production of the F-22 draws down at Lockheed Martin's facility in Marietta,
4 Georgia, production on major components of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter has begun; and

5 WHEREAS, the F-35 will provide the United States military and a number of allied partners
6 with an affordable fifth generation multi-role stealth fighter that is critical to our national
7 security and global cooperation; and

8 WHEREAS, there are some members of Congress who are contemplating cuts to the F-35
9 program; and

10 WHEREAS, major portions of the F-35 are being built in the State of Georgia, which adds
11 to our great state's list of credentials; and

12 WHEREAS, Lockheed Martin's Marietta operations are economically important to this state,
13 with a \$689 million annual payroll that covers employees from 53 counties and nearly \$200
14 million in subcontracts to over 300 Georgia companies; and

15 WHEREAS, Lockheed Martin Marietta has an infrastructure that allows Georgia to be a
16 center for the development and manufacture of large scale aerospace projects; and

17 WHEREAS, if additional F-35 aircraft are cut from the defense budget, there would be a
18 negative impact on local economies and the economic recovery of this state as a whole; and

19 WHEREAS, cuts could cost jobs and negatively impact our state's aerospace manufacturing
20 capability; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia is currently ranked number five in the nation and continues to be a
22 leader in aerospace technology; and

23 WHEREAS, if the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program is insufficiently funded, Georgia's place
24 as a leader in the aerospace technology field is threatened.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body request the United States Congress to adequately fund the
27 production of F-35 Joint Strike Fighters and urge the Georgia congressional delegation to
28 stand against cuts to funding of the F-35 program.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
31 congressional delegation.