

House Resolution 1626

By: Representatives Hill of the 21st, Ralston of the 7th, O`Neal of the 146th, Byrd of the 20th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Civil Air Patrol for their service to the citizens of Georgia and recognizing
2 March 7, 2012, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Civil Air Patrol, an organization of volunteers who assist the United States
4 military in national defense by performing aerial coastal patrols and emergency services
5 within the continental United States, was founded on December 1, 1914; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1943 the capabilities of the organization were recognized as vital to national
7 defense, and by Presidential Executive Order, the Civil Air Patrol was assigned to the War
8 Department and subsequently chartered by Congress to perform three distinct missions:
9 emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet programs; and

10 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol consists of over 2,000 volunteer
11 members in 45 squadrons and four groups located throughout Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, members of the Georgia Wing have consistently volunteered their services,
13 time, and resources to serve as a vital component of our national defense by conducting
14 missions in homeland security, counter drug, disaster relief, and search and rescue; and

15 WHEREAS, Civil Air Patrol air and ground teams perform over 90 percent of inland search
16 and rescue missions tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordinator Center; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing members actively support the Civil Air Patrol's primary
18 missions, as evidenced in 2011 by their participation in aerial photography in response to the
19 April tornadoes in North Georgia, locating a missing aircraft with four people on board in
20 the North Georgia Mountains in June, locating and silencing numerous electronic locator
21 transmitters, and conducting 201 sundown patrols in South Georgia, which assisted in the
22 rescue of 19 people; and

23 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wing volunteers supported the Governor's Task Force for Drug
24 Suppression, introduced hundreds of Georgia youth to aviation through the flight orientation
25 program, and honored more than 15,000 of Georgia's fallen soldiers through the Wreaths
26 Across America initiative; and

27 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing squadrons have been awarded the National Squadron of
28 Distinction in 2008 and 2009, the Southeast Region Squadron of Distinction in 2010, and
29 numerous other awards for counter drug, emergency services, and cadet programs; and

30 WHEREAS, the estimated value of their volunteer hours in 2011 was \$5 million; and

31 WHEREAS, these "flying minutemen" of the Civil Air Patrol have consistently provided this
32 state with invaluable emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet programs.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize the Civil Air Patrol for their selfless contribution to the
35 State of Georgia and recognize March 7, 2012, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the capitol.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Civil Air Patrol.