

House Resolution 561

By: Representative Hill of the 22<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 13, 2013, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the capitol and commending the  
2 volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol for their service to the citizens of Georgia; and for other  
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Civil Air Patrol was founded on December 1, 1941, as an organization of  
5 volunteers to assist the United States military in national defense by performing aerial coastal  
6 patrols and emergency services within the continental United States; and

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

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

13 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol consists of over 1,900 volunteer  
14 members in 45 squadrons and four groups located throughout this state; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing squadrons have been awarded the National Squadron of  
16 Distinction in 2008 and 2009, the Southeast Region Squadron of Distinction in 2010, and  
17 numerous other awards for Counter Drug, Emergency Services, and Cadet Programs; and

18 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing members are an intricate component of our national defense who  
19 volunteer their services, time, and resources to actively support the Civil Air Patrol by  
20 conducting missions in homeland security, disaster relief emergency services, search and  
21 rescue, counter drug, aerospace education, and cadet programs; and

22 WHEREAS, their contributions to our state were evidenced in 2012 through their efforts in  
23 locating several missing aircraft and people in Georgia, locating and silencing numerous  
24 activated distress beacons, conducting "Sundown Patrols" in South Georgia, and conducting  
25 joint exercises with local emergency agencies throughout this state; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing volunteers also supported the Governor's Task Force for Drug  
27 Suppression and other antidrug efforts, honored more than 15,000 of Georgia's fallen soldiers  
28 through the Wreaths Across America initiative, and introduced hundreds of Georgia youth  
29 to aviation through the flight orientation programs; and

30 WHEREAS, the estimated value of the Georgia Wing members' volunteer hours in 2012 was  
31 \$4.9 million; and

32 WHEREAS, these "flying minutemen" of the Civil Air Patrol have, since the program's  
33 inception, consistently provided this state with invaluable emergency services, aerospace  
34 education, and cadet programs.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
36 the members of this body recognize March 13, 2013, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the capitol  
37 and commend the selfless contributions the volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol have made to  
38 the State of Georgia.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Wing of the  
41 Civil Air Patrol.