

Senate Resolution 429

By: Senators Loudermilk of the 14th, Heath of the 31st, Harbison of the 15th, Hill of the 32nd and Hufstetler of the 52nd

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 SENATE that the members of this body
36 recognize March 13, 2013, as Civil Air Patrol Day at the capitol and commend the selfless
37 contributions the volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol have made to the State of Georgia.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.