

House Resolution 382

By: Representatives Rogers of the 10th, Fleming of the 121st, England of the 116th, Powell of the 171st, and Stephens of the 164th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Aerospace Industry for its significant beneficial
2 impact to the people and economy of the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia's aerospace sector had a \$57.5 billion economic impact (2017 data)
4 and the state is home to more than 800 aerospace companies employing 108,000 Georgians.
5 These aerospace employees earn an average annual wage of \$77,000, 47 percent higher than
6 the state's average wage; every aerospace job in Georgia supports an additional 1.5 jobs,
7 representing 8.5 percent of Georgia wages and salaries; and

8 WHEREAS, Delta Air Lines is the world's second largest airline with headquarters in Atlanta
9 and 33,000 of its 88,000 work force is located in Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, Gulfstream Aerospace employs more than 12,000 highly skilled workers in
11 Savannah and Brunswick, manufacturing and maintaining Gulfstream aircraft, and Lockheed
12 Martin employs nearly 5,000 engineers and technicians at their Marietta plant producing the
13 C-130 and F-35 Center Wing Assemblies and modifying and upgrading aircraft it designed
14 and built in Georgia such as the C-5M, P-3, and F-22. Thrush Aircraft operates aircraft
15 manufacturing facilities in Albany, and Maule Air builds aircraft in Moultrie. These four
16 companies create Georgia-built aircraft that are in use around the globe; and

17 WHEREAS, Pratt & Whitney's Columbus facility employs nearly 2,000 workers and includes
18 the Columbus Engine Center, responsible for engine overhauls, and Columbus Forge, which
19 provides forged jet engine parts. Hundreds of companies throughout the state manufacture
20 key components for major aircraft programs throughout the world; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia's aerospace industry is a world leader in aerospace exports, currently
22 producing \$8.4 billion, making it Georgia's number one export since 2004; and

23 WHEREAS, Georgia is home to the world's busiest passenger airport, Hartsfield-Jackson
24 Atlanta International Airport, where aviation activities and transportation hubs contribute to
25 the employment of 63,000 people at the airport and 400,000 in the metro Atlanta region and
26 \$70 billion in state-wide total economic impact; and

27 WHEREAS, Georgia aerospace is a leader in the maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO)
28 of military and civilian aircraft engines and equipment and is home to the largest commercial
29 MRO facilities in the nation (Delta TechOps) and one of the world's largest military MRO
30 facilities (Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex); Georgia is home to multiple military
31 organizations with flight operations, including the United States Air Force, Army, Army
32 National Guard, and Coast Guard; and

33 WHEREAS, emerging technologies are enabling new types of aircraft for urban and regional
34 transportation; Georgia's aerospace industry and academic researchers seek to advance the
35 concepts and technologies necessary to safely and efficiently integrate unmanned aircraft into
36 the National Airspace System. These advancements are laying the foundation to enable rapid
37 transport of goods, medical supplies, and passengers within cities and to rural areas,
38 improving quality of life; and

39 WHEREAS, Georgia's growing space sector includes locations of satellite enabled global
40 communications companies IntelSat and ViaSat and the Georgia-based SpaceWorks
41 Enterprises family of companies that provide space and flight solutions for the next
42 generation. In Georgia's universities, Georgia Tech launched the R.A.N.G.E cubesat on a
43 Space X Falcon 9 Rocket in December, 2018, and has four additional active small satellite
44 projects; and the Small Satellite laboratory at the University of Georgia is designing and
45 building spacecraft to monitor the health of Georgia's coast with plans to launch two
46 student-built small satellites into space by 2020; and

47 WHEREAS, Georgia offers world-class aerospace education programs and is a leader in
48 research and development through public and private universities, conducting over \$60
49 million in specialized aerospace research and over \$500 million in general engineering
50 research annually; in addition to the second aerospace engineering undergraduate and fourth
51 graduate program at Georgia Tech, Middle Georgia State University offers bachelor's degrees
52 in flight and aviation maintenance and was selected as one of eight universities in the nation
53 to partner with Delta Air Lines on the Propel Collegiate Pilot Career Path. Six Technical
54 College System of Georgia schools offer aviation programs around the state, offering
55 certificates, diplomas, and degrees to meet aviation industry needs.

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
57 the members of this body recognize and commend the importance of the Georgia Aerospace
58 Industry to the State of Georgia, support efforts to maintain and strengthen the industry, and
59 help to foster its continued growth within the State of Georgia for the benefit of all
60 Georgians.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
62 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
63 Georgia Department of Economic Development Center of Innovation for Aerospace.