

Senate Resolution 889

By: Senators Harbin of the 16th, Strickland of the 42nd, Bearden of the 30th, Gooch of the 51st and Watson of the 1st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Civil Air Patrol for their service to the citizens of Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Civil Air Patrol was founded on December 1, 1941, as an organization of
4 volunteers meant to assist the United States military in national defense by performing aerial
5 coastal patrols and emergency services within the continental United States; 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 designated by Congress on May 26, 1948, as the official
9 auxiliary to the United States Air Force to perform three distinct missions: emergency
10 services, aerospace education, and cadet programs; and

11 WHEREAS, Civil Air Patrol's association with the United States Air Force in performing
12 these "Missions for America" as part of the United States Air Force's Total Force; and

13 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wing of Civil Air Patrol consists of almost 2,000 volunteer
14 members in 37 squadrons and seven groups located throughout this state; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing members earned national recognition in 2021 by receiving the
16 Crisis Service Award for their efforts to support Georgia's communities during the
17 COVID-19 pandemic; and

18 WHEREAS, Georgia Wing members, as an intricate component of our national defense,
19 volunteer their services, time, and resources to actively support Civil Air Patrol by
20 conducting missions in homeland security, disaster relief, and emergency services, search
21 and rescue, counter drug, aerospace education, and cadet programs, heavily supporting
22 hurricane relief efforts for Helene and Milton by providing FEMA and GEMA with
23 thousands of aerial images as well as supporting distribution points around the state and
24 conducting "Sundown Patrols" in South Georgia; and

25 WHEREAS, the estimated value of the Georgia Wing members' volunteer hours in 2024 was
26 in excess of \$7.6 million; and

27 WHEREAS, these "flying minutemen" of the Civil Air Patrol have, since its inception,
28 consistently provided this state with invaluable emergency services, serving America's
29 communities, saving lives, and shaping futures.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 recognize the selfless contributions that the volunteers of the Civil Air Patrol have made to
32 the State of Georgia.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia Wing
35 of the Civil Air Patrol.