

By: Representative Eaves

HOUSE RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF GENERAL
AVIATION FLYOVER IN WASHINGTON D.C. TO COMMEMORATE
THE LAST EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS OF GENERAL AVIATION.

Subtitle

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF
GENERAL AVIATION FLYOVER IN WASHINGTON
D.C. TO COMMEMORATE THE LAST EIGHTY-FIVE
YEARS OF GENERAL AVIATION

WHEREAS, in 1939 several significant events took place to usher in a new era of general aviation that would solidify its important place in American society, including:

(1) The American general aviation industry transitioned from the "Golden Age" to full mobilization for World War II, during which the airplane changed from a slow, wood-and-fabric biplane to a fast, sleek, all-metal monoplane;

(2) President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Civilian Pilot Training Act:

(A) Providing pilot training to twenty thousand (20,000) college students each year; and

(B) Garnering the participation of one thousand one hundred thirty-two (1,132) educational institutions and one thousand four hundred sixty (1,460) flight schools;

(3) President Franklin D. Roosevelt established National Aviation Day in 1939 to celebrate Orville Wright's birthday; and

(4) The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association was founded to



protect the freedom to fly while keeping general aviation safe, fun, and affordable, and is now the largest and most trusted resource for all things related to general aviation; and

WHEREAS, today, the United States general aviation industry:

- (1) Is composed of more than two hundred thousand (200,000) aircraft;
- (2) Safely flies over twenty-six million (26,000,000) flight hours per year; and
- (3) Registers thirty million (30,000,000) safe takeoffs and landings per year; and

WHEREAS, general aviation:

- (1) Contributes over two hundred forty-seven billion dollars (\$247,000,000,000) in economic impact and supports one million two hundred thousand (1,200,000) jobs across the country; and
- (2) Serves as a vital lifeline for communities through missions of disaster relief, humanitarian aid, law enforcement, and agricultural support; and

WHEREAS, over six hundred fifty thousand (650,000) registered pilots in the United States access more than five thousand one hundred (5,100) public use airports and another fourteen thousand (14,000) privately owned airfields, more than any other country in the world; and

WHEREAS, pilots and airports connect communities across America with the National Air Transportation system; and

WHEREAS, general aviation is safer than it ever has been, and trending even safer; and

WHEREAS, the fatal accident rate is at a historic record low of point seventy-three (0.73) per one hundred thousand (100,000) flight hours, half of what it was in the mid 1990s; and

WHEREAS, over the last eighty-five (85) years, Americans have marveled

at the continual technological advancements in general aviation, which have:

- (1) Improved the lives of American citizens;
- (2) Enabled access to communities across the country;
- (3) Created hundreds of billions of dollars in economic impact and growth; and
- (4) Propelled the United States as the world leader in general aviation; and

WHEREAS, people travel from around the world to access the exceptional training and the freedom in this country to fly general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS, foreign governments send their most critical pilots to the United States for training to fly their most important dignitaries and to train for careers in the airlines; and

WHEREAS, Orville and Wilbur Wright first harnessed powered flight at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, and Charles Lindbergh became one of the most famous persons the world had ever known when he departed the United States in an American-built aircraft to cross the Atlantic, providing a deep source of American pride and identity; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas has three thousand three hundred thirty-eight (3,338) registered aircraft, ninety (90) general aviation airports, and six thousand five hundred twenty-three (6,523) pilots; and

WHEREAS, in Arkansas, general aviation brings over four hundred sixty-seven million dollars (\$467,000,000) in economic activity and supports five thousand one hundred (5,100) jobs,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives recognize that the National Celebration of General Aviation Flyover in Washington D.C.:

(1) Presents a tremendous opportunity to seize the public imagination;

(2) Presents an opportunity to reflect on general aviation's ability to safely achieve innovative technological advancements; and

(3) Will be a defining moment in remembering the past, present, and future significance of general aviation in the United States.