

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ANGEL FLIGHT OF
2 GEORGIA FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE AND SAVE THE LIVES OF THEIR
3 FELLOW CITIZENS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE UNPRECEDENTED ATTACKS ON
4 SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.

5 WHEREAS, when the security restrictions halted commercial air
6 traffic, problems erupted within the medical community. Hospitals
7 and blood centers overflowing with blood donors had no way to test
8 the blood before it could be administered to patients. The
9 majority of centers in the South typically transport their samples
10 via commercial airlines to a testing facility in Dallas, but with
11 air traffic grounded, it wasn't happening. However, Angel Flight
12 of Georgia received special FAA clearance for transportation of
13 critical personnel or cargo, and this is where they offered their
14 assistance. It was through their efforts that the hospitals in
15 Mississippi and surrounding states kept a constant blood supply
16 for the days following the national crisis; and

17 WHEREAS, in order to keep the supply of blood available in a
18 timely manner, Angel Flight of Georgia made daily "blood runs,"
19 dispatching several pilots to cities like Hattiesburg, Meridian
20 and Tupelo, Mississippi, to collect blood samples. After
21 collecting the samples from various locations, all the pilots
22 would meet in Jackson, Mississippi. Once in Jackson, all the
23 samples were consolidated to one plane and flown to the testing
24 facility in Texas. Due to these efforts, the blood supply process
25 was uninterrupted and blood was available as needed to the
26 residents of Mississippi; and

27 WHEREAS, by October 2001, Angel Flight of Georgia had
28 coordinated and executed some 70 missions related to disaster



29 relief and had been recognized by Governors of the States of
30 Georgia, Tennessee, Florida and Mississippi; and

31 WHEREAS, Angel Flight of Georgia is a group of pilot and
32 nonpilot volunteers that have been dedicated to serving patients
33 and healthcare providers in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and
34 Mississippi since 1983, working with an independent network of
35 volunteer pilot organizations to ensure travel across the United
36 States; and

37 WHEREAS, nothing could have prepared us for the tragedies of
38 September 11th. We watched in stunned silence and horror as
39 events unfolded permanently imbedding themselves in our memory;
40 and

41 WHEREAS, it is an honor to recognize the services of Angel
42 Flight of Georgia, and particularly its Mississippi pilots and
43 volunteers, who so unselfishly gave a helping hand to their
44 community, their neighbors and their country during this time of
45 national crisis:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
47 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Angel
48 Flight of Georgia, and its Mississippi pilots and volunteers, for
49 their efforts to improve and save the lives of their fellow
50 citizens in the aftermath of the unprecedented attacks on
51 September 11, 2001.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
53 the representatives of Angel Flight of Georgia in the Chamber of
54 the Mississippi Senate on January 15, 2002, and be made available
55 to the Capitol Press Corps.

