

Alaska House of Representatives

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During Session
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HJR 9 Centennial of Flight Celebration-Sponsor Statement

On July 4th 2013 the State will mark the 100 year anniversary of the first powered flight in Alaska. To honor that occasion the State will hold the Centennial of Flight Celebration. HJR 9 establishes the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum as the focal point for those activities, programs and celebrations. The Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum's mission is to "preserve, display, and honor Alaska's aviation heritage." As such it is uniquely qualified and positioned to serve as the headquarters for this celebration. Establishing the Headquarters for the Centennial of Powered Flight in Alaska at the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum ensures a well-planned and organized celebratory program by a capable team of professionals for all Alaskans and visitors to Alaska.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES FOSTER, Stoltze, Holmes, Hawker, Harris, Herron

Introduced: 1/28/09

Referred: Transportation

A RESOLUTION

1 **Designating the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum located at 4721 Aircraft Drive in**
2 **Anchorage as the official headquarters for the State of Alaska's Centennial of Flight**
3 **Celebration.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska will celebrate 100 years of powered flight on July 3,
6 2013; and

7 **WHEREAS** the pioneering and development of flight operations in Alaska is directly
8 tied to the development and growth of the overall infrastructure within the State of Alaska;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS** aviation within the State of Alaska has served to interconnect the diverse
11 topographies and peoples of the state and has fostered a truly pioneering Alaska spirit;

12 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the Alaska Aviation
13 Heritage Museum be designated the official headquarters for the State of Alaska's Centennial
14 of Flight Celebration and preparations in the year 2013.

15 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of

1 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
2 President of the U.S. Senate; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark
3 Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
4 Alaska delegation in Congress.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR HJR 9

“Designating the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum located at 4721 Aircraft Drive in Anchorage as the official headquarters for the State of Alaska’s Centennial of Flight Celebration.”

As Alaskans prepare to celebrate the Centennial of Powered Flight in Alaska in 2013, HJR 9 establishes the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum as the focal point for those activities, programs and celebrations. Alaska has the highest per capita population of pilots in the nation and it is requisite that this celebration be handled by the professional team at the Aviation Museum.

Alaska’s powered aviation began at the fairgrounds in Fairbanks on July 4, 1913 with Captain James Martin demonstrating the Martin Gage Tractor Biplane over the grandstands.

The Alaska Aviation Museum currently exhibits numerous artifacts depicting aviation milestones of state, national and global significance. These include the Douglas World Cruises, the *Seattle* (1924) to the P-40E #241 flown by Lt. Winfield McIntyre during the attack on Dutch Harbor in 1942 and the Loening Keystone Commuter brought to Alaska by Governor Jay Hammond in 1946. Caring for these and other significant artifacts and being the focal point for Alaska’s incredibly rich aviation history are the core of the Aviation Museum’s mission. A dedicated group of aviation historians and enthusiasts diligently work to protect, preserve and grow the mission.

Alaska’s convention, visitor and tourism industries will all benefit by having the Aviation Museum designated as the official headquarters for the Centennial of Flight. Aviation and transportation museums around our country and around the globe will highlight Alaska’s aviation history and development to tourist groups and aviation enthusiasts who will travel to Alaska to be part of this milestone in aviation.

Establishing the Headquarters for the Centennial of Powered Flight in Alaska at the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum ensures a well-planned and organized celebratory program by a capable team of professionals for all Alaskans and visitors to Alaska.

Thank you for your consideration of this Resolution.

**Gail Phillips
President, Alaska Aviation Museum
Board of Directors
277-4867**

**Norm Lagasse
Executive Director
Alaska Aviation Museum
248-5325**

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Memorandum:

To: Rep. Peggy Wilson, Chair
House Transportation Committee

From: Rep. Richard Foster *R Foster*

Date: March 10, 2009

RE: Scheduling HJR 9 CENTENNIAL OF FLIGHT CELEBRATION

I respectfully request that House Joint Resolution 9 (HJR 9) be scheduled for a hearing in the House Transportation Committee.

Attached is a copy of the Resolution and a Sponsor's Statement. These are also available electronically for your committee staff. There is no fiscal note since there should be no expense involved.

If you have questions please contact my office for clarification or additional information where you feel it is needed.