

By: Williams

S.C.R. No. 53

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Charles Edward Taylor, who built the first engines
3 for Orville and Wilbur Wright's airplanes, made an incalculable
4 contribution to the development of aviation; and

5 WHEREAS, Born May 24, 1868, in Illinois, Mr. Taylor began
6 working as a machinist for the two brothers at the Wright Cycle
7 Company in Dayton, Ohio, in 1902; after six weeks on the job, he had
8 built the first engine used to power the Wright Flyer, and his place
9 in aviation history was secured with the Wright brothers' first
10 successful flight at Kitty Hawk on December 17, 1903; and

11 WHEREAS, In the early years of the fledgling industry, Mr.
12 Taylor maintained a constant presence in aviation development; he
13 continued to design and build aircraft engines and accompanied the
14 Wright brothers to flight demonstrations in Europe, United States
15 government test flights in Fort Myer, Virginia, and further
16 demonstrations at the Hudson-Fulton Exposition in New York;
17 moreover, he served as the mechanic for the first successful
18 transcontinental flight in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Taylor's career in aviation construction and
20 maintenance spanned more than 60 years, and the Federal Aviation
21 Administration has honored this achievement with the establishment
22 of the Charles Edward Taylor Master Mechanic Award, which
23 recognizes persons with 50 or more years of aviation maintenance
24 experience; and

1 WHEREAS, Charles Edward Taylor played a fundamental role in
2 the early development of powered flight, and the exacting vocation
3 he pioneered has become an essential part of the fabric of modern
4 life; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
6 hereby declare May 24, 2003, as Aviation Maintenance Technician Day
7 in Texas in tribute to Charles Edward Taylor and to all aviation
8 maintenance technicians who have followed in his footsteps.