

By: Burnam

H.R. No. 1299

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

24           WHEREAS, Charles Edward Taylor played a fundamental role in

1 the early development of powered flight, and the exacting vocation  
2 he pioneered has become an essential part of the fabric of modern  
3 life; now, therefore, be it

4         RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas  
5 Legislature hereby recognize May 24, 2005, as Aviation Maintenance  
6 Technician Day in Texas in tribute to Charles Edward Taylor and to  
7 all aviation maintenance technicians who have followed in his  
8 footsteps.