



General Assembly

**House Joint  
Resolution No. 87**

*February Session, 2014*

LCO No. 5432



Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. MILLER L., 122<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

SEN. WILLIAMS, 29<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. CAFERO, 142<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. KELLY, 21<sup>st</sup> Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CONNECTICUT AS FIRST IN FLIGHT.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, the first manned, controlled flight of a powered,  
2 heavier-than-air aircraft was reported in Fairfield, Connecticut, on  
3 August 14, 1901; and

4 WHEREAS, Gustave Whitehead piloted his Number 21 aircraft for  
5 approximately one-half mile, at a height of approximately fifty feet,  
6 and landed safely; and

7 WHEREAS, he resided in the towns of Bridgeport and Fairfield at  
8 the time of the first flight, and was a resident of Fairfield County until  
9 his death in 1927; and

10 WHEREAS, his flight of the Number 21 aircraft occurred more than  
11 two years before the famous flight of the Wright brothers at Kitty  
12 Hawk in 1903; and

13 WHEREAS, he reportedly completed numerous other manned,  
14 controlled flights of powered, heavier-than-air aircrafts throughout the  
15 state of Connecticut between 1901 and 1903; and

16 WHEREAS, Gustave Whitehead was the first in a series of aviation  
17 pioneers in the state of Connecticut; and

18 WHEREAS, his flight paved the way for Connecticut to be a leader  
19 in aviation innovation.

20 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut  
21 General Assembly recognizes Connecticut as the location of the first  
22 manned, controlled flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of  
24 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution to be  
25 transmitted to the family of Gustave Whitehead and to the Connecticut  
26 Air and Space Center in Stratford.