



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

House Resolution No. 15

LCO No. 3996



Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. MILLER L., 122nd Dist.

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CONNECTICUT AS FIRST IN FLIGHT.

Resolved by this House:

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 of a mile, at a height of approximately fifty
6 feet, 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 House
21 of Representatives 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 clerk of the House cause a
24 copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the family of Gustave
25 Whitehead and to the Connecticut Air and Space Center in Stratford.