

House Resolution 46EX

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164th, Petrea of the 166th, Hitchens of the 161st, Gilliard of the 162nd, Mallow of the 163rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 25th anniversary of the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air
2 Force; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force opened in May 1996, and
4 it will be commemorating its 25th anniversary throughout 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, since opening 25 years ago just miles from where the Eighth Air Force was
6 activated, the 90,000 square foot museum has welcomed more than 2.2 million visitors; and

7 WHEREAS, the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force tells the stories of
8 character, courage, sacrifice, bravery, and duty of the young men of the Eighth Air Force;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the museum serves as the repository of the rich and remarkable history of our
11 nation's most storied air force, the Mighty Eighth; and

12 WHEREAS, this history comes to life for visitors through encounters with the B-17 on
13 display; the immersive mission experiences and compelling exhibitions; and the rare objects,
14 photographs, and planes from World War II; and

15 WHEREAS, the museum's education department engages tens of thousands of school
16 children annually; in 2019, more than 15,000 students from 325 schools participated in tours;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, children in the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System complete the
19 Character Counts! Program every year, a nationally-recognized program based on the six
20 pillars of character personified by the men of the Eighth Air Force in World War II; and

21 WHEREAS, the Roger A. Freeman Library and Research Center serves as the repository of
22 the museum's extensive permanent collection, which consists of 92,000 historical images;
23 rare film footage; 12,000 objects, including uniforms, diaries, letters, and personal effects;
24 and more than 1,100 oral histories with Eighth Air Force World War II veterans; and

25 WHEREAS, the Freeman Center is used by scholars, genealogists, students, relatives of
26 Eighth Air Force veterans, and amateur historians; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to honor the contributions of this wonderful
28 institution during this special time.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body commemorate the 25th anniversary of the National Museum of the
31 Mighty Eighth Air Force and extend sincere best wishes for many more years of successful
32 operation.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 public and the press.