

Senate Resolution 359

By: Senators Kennedy of the 18th, Jones of the 25th and Mullis of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Middle Georgia State University School of Aviation and recognizing February
2 28, 2019, as Aerospace Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Middle Georgia State University's Eastman campus is home to Georgia's
4 only public four-year School of Aviation; the 22 acre Eastman campus is located at the Heart
5 of Georgia Airport and operates satellite locations at the Herbert Smart/Macon Downtown
6 Airport and the Cook County Airport in Adel, Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, Middle Georgia State University (MGA) is the only university in Georgia that
8 offers a bachelor's degree in flight; Middle Georgia State University also offers maintenance
9 training and is one of only eight universities in the nation that have been selected for Delta
10 Air Lines Propel Collegiate Pilot Career Path, a defined, accelerated, and customized path
11 from school to a Delta Flight Deck; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia's Center of Innovation – Aerospace, a program of the Georgia
13 Department of Economic Development, is hosted at Middle Georgia State University. MGA's
14 Aviation Campus at Eastman has partnered on several of the center's innovation grant
15 projects to accelerate growth for Georgia's aerospace companies, such as Thrush Aircraft;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the Aviation Campus's unique combination of assets allows Georgia's aerospace
18 companies to utilize one of the country's fastest-growing aviation programs for applied
19 research, testing, and training, while also providing exceptional hands-on training for MGA
20 students; and

21 WHEREAS, Middle Georgia State University offers degrees in aerospace programs
22 including Flight (both fixed wing and helicopter), Air Traffic Control, Aircraft Structural
23 Technology, and Aviation Maintenance. The aviation focus on Eastman campus has attracted

24 several aerospace companies to the area, including Tower Aerospace and Aircraft
25 Manufacturing and Development and Valance Surface Technologies; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia's five Centers of Innovation provide technical industry expertise,
27 research collaborations, and business partnerships to help the state's strategic industries
28 connect, compete, and grow; and

29 WHEREAS, MGA's multiple locations in one of the largest aerospace business clusters in
30 the state, their existing aviation assets, including an airport with air traffic control provided
31 by MGA, and several on-site laboratories combine to develop a skilled work force to support
32 the \$57.5 billion aerospace industry in Georgia; and

33 WHEREAS, the institution has received Federal Aviation Administration approval for
34 Certificates of Authorization to operate unmanned aerial vehicles, testing airworthiness and
35 developing operational processes; and

36 WHEREAS, Middle Georgia State University provides students with the resources and
37 instruction required to become aviation professionals, and this outstanding academic
38 institution is abundantly deserving of recognition and commendation.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
40 honor the Middle Georgia State University School of Aviation and recognize February 28,
41 2019, as Aerospace Day at the state capitol.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Middle
44 Georgia State University School of Aviation.