



Sen. Nancy Landon Kassebaum

(R - Kansas)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. - February 24, 1982 - Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum (R-Kan.) today introduced a resolution in the U.S. Senate designating May 20, 1982, as "Amelia Earhart Day." The resolution commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the first trans-Atlantic solo flight by a woman.

Kassebaum was joined by Senator Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.) as a co-sponsor. The resolution is being offered in the U.S. House by Second District Congressman Jim Jeffries (R-Kan.).

Amelia Earhart was born in Atchison, Kansas, on July 24, 1898. One of her greatest achievements occurred on May 20, 1932, when she successfully completed the first trans-Atlantic solo flight by a woman. The flight began on the evening of May 20, 1932. It ended 13 1/2 hours later when she landed at a field near Londonderry in the north of Ireland. Amelia Earhart set four new records with the flight. She became the first woman to fly the Atlantic solo, and the first person to fly the ocean twice. She established a new speed record and a new distance record for women, despite problems with storms, icing, and some malfunctions with her airplane.

In offering her resolution, Senator Kassebaum said, "Amelia Earhart was a pioneer in the field of aviation. Exhibits of her medals, pictures, and books are in a hundred libraries, and there are major displays at Purdue University and the Smithsonian. Her daring flights touched the lives of millions of Americans and others the world over. It is appropriate that this brave woman be given special recognition."

The resolution calls for designating May 20, 1982, as "Amelia Earhart Day," and it calls upon federal, state, and local governments and the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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