

The Honorable Claudia Tenney (NY-22)
Member Testimony before the House Judiciary Committee

Thank you, Chairman Nadler, and Ranking Member Jordan for providing Members with the opportunity to share their priorities with the Committee today.

I would like to bring the Committee's attention to legislation that I have sponsored, House Resolution 566. This resolution commemorates the 80th anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol and the organization's commendable contributions to the Nation.

For 80 years, the Civil Air Patrol has played an integral role in supporting critical defense training and homeland security. It is both an Air Force Auxiliary and a public service non-profit that serves thousands of communities across every state.

The organization has undertaken a range of missions that are vital to supporting our local communities. In 2020, for example, Civil Air Patrol saved 130 lives using aircraft, ground teams and technology analysis teams. Throughout the year, the organization provided more than 36,000 volunteer days of COVID-19 support to 41 states including distribution of test kits, PPE, and food among a myriad of other missions. Its COVID-19 response was its largest mass mobilization since World War II.

Civil Air Patrol continues to train interceptor pilots and unmanned aerial vehicle operators under realistic conditions, it supports aerial observation missions and counterdrug operations, provides aerial photo reconnaissance to FEMA, and assists regularly in forest fire patrols. In coordination with the Air Force, Civil Air Patrol has worked to address the national shortage of pilots and aviation professionals through its programs that help youth prepare for military, STEM, and public service careers for the future.

For the past 80 years, Civil Air Patrol's all volunteer force has selflessly served America in times of war and peace to protect and defend their communities, support them in times of disaster and emergencies, and train youth as future leaders and responsible members of their communities.

I hereby urge this Committee to consider this important resolution and join me in commending the Civil Air Patrol for its "80 years of Missions for America" and its outstanding disaster relief, emergency response, Air Force-tasked missions, and cadet and aerospace programs, which every day touch the lives of millions of American citizens.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify before you today.