

Tompkins County Legislature

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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the County of Tompkins in the State of New York has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational intuitions, aviation organizations, and community airports, and

WHEREAS, general aviation and the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport have an immense economic impact on the County of Tompkins, and

WHEREAS, according to the New York Department of Transportation Aviation Bureau, there are 108 public-use general aviation airports in New York. The FAA reports that these airports support 16,267 pilots and 5,116 active general aviation aircraft, and

WHEREAS, FAA data shows that New York is home to 118 repair stations, 11 FAA-approved pilot schools, 2,617 flight instructors, and 4,108 student pilots. In addition, there are 75 fixed-base operators in the State, according to the comprehensive AC-U-KWIK directory. According to Helicopter Association International, there are 587 helicopters in New York, and

WHEREAS, general aviation airports in New York account for 37,800 jobs and over \$2.9 billion in labor income, and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports New York's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely, and

WHEREAS, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael E. Lane, Chair of the Tompkins County Legislature, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the County of Tompkins and declare May 2016 as:

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and caused the great seal of the County of Tompkins to be affixed this the 3rd day of May in the year 2016.



Michael E. Lane, Chair
Tompkins County Legislature