

# Proclamation

## by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

- Whereas,** West Virginia general aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, businesses, communities, and the State of West Virginia; and
- Whereas,** general aviation in West Virginia supports 5,300 jobs in the state, resulting in \$256 million in labor income. In addition, general aviation contributes over \$1 billion to the state's total economic output annually; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia has seventeen general aviation airports serving more than 1,806 pilots and 855 active general aviation aircrafts; and
- Whereas,** general aviation benefits West Virginia through corporate, private, charter and air taxi travel; shipping and express air freight services; firefighting; public safety and law enforcement; weather and traffic reporting; and recreation and tourism; and
- Whereas,** general aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to natural disasters, medical emergencies, search and rescue operations, and a wide range of critical resources; and
- Whereas,** with the State's geography, large numbers of businesses and communities depend on general aviation aircrafts for access to medical treatment, economic opportunity, and communication; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, the aerospace industry, West Virginia airports, aircraft manufacturing and repair stations, and aviation education; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia airports provide access for businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the Nation's Air Transportation System and connected to the world's global marketplace; and
- Whereas,** the use of general aviation by businesses and farms in West Virginia is directly tied to the future growth and prosperity of the State.

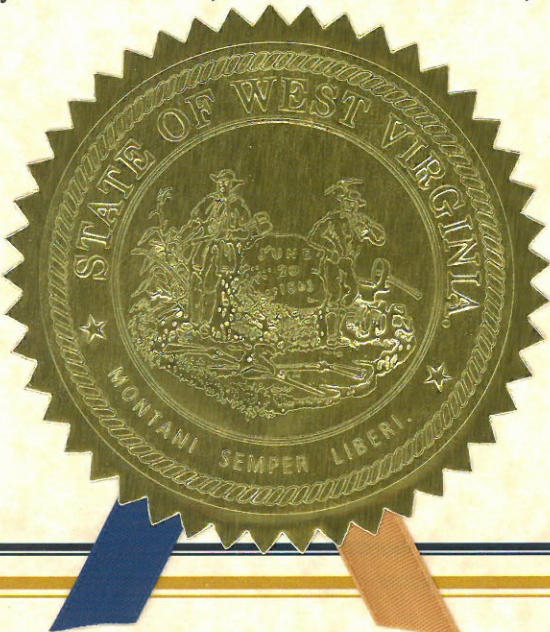
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *October 2016* as:

### *General Aviation Appreciation Month*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource that aviation is in West Virginia.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Second day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Fourth year of the State.



*Earl Ray Tomblin*

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

By the Governor:

*Natalie E. Tennant*

Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State