

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation



Whereas:

West Virginia General Aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses, industry, communities and the State of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS: *General aviation* in West Virginia supports 5,300 jobs in West Virginia, 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: According to the WVDOT Aeronautics Commission, West Virginia is home to 17 general aviation airports. According to the FAA, West Virginia airports support 1,806 pilots and 855 active general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS: The state of West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of *general aviation*, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports, and airport operators; and

WHEREAS: West Virginia State has 32 public use airports serving 2,200 pilots and 1,370 general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS: The nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important, public benefit, and direct Congressional oversight is necessary to ensure stable funding of this system; and

WHEREAS: West Virginia airports provide access to businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the Nation Air Transportation system and connected to the world's global marketplace; and

WHEREAS: Many communities in West Virginia depend heavily on *general aviation* and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our State.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE WILLIAMS, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON, CABELL AND WAYNE COUNTIES, do hereby proclaim *general aviation* a vital strategic resource to the State of West Virginia and declare October 2016 to be

General Aviation Appreciation Month

in the City of Huntington.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the City of Huntington to be affixed this first day of October in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Sixteen.

Steve Williams, Mayor