

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

General aviation and community airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses, industry, ranches, and farms; 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: *General aviation* in West Virginia contributes \$616 million or \$333 per capita to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS: *General aviation* plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters; 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 2014 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 Fourteen.


Steve Williams, Mayor