

April 22, 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Recent negative press which has mischaracterized general aviation has created a poisonous climate for the aviation sector of our economy. Jobs have been lost, and an entire sector of our economy seriously damaged. For our communities and those of many small and mid-size towns across the heartland who depend on general aviation, this is very troubling situation.

To make matters worse, nearly 100 cities and towns have lost scheduled airline service in the last several months. General aviation has become that much more important to the economic life of those communities the airlines won't serve.

We call on you to help protect the 1.2 million good paying jobs and \$150 billion per year in economic output created by GA. Mr. President, small and mid-size communities like ours need the manufacturing and service jobs which general aviation makes possible. Ready access to these airplanes provides a crucial lifeline to rural America, connecting farmers, charitable groups, and individuals with resources, tools and business to national and world markets.

You may not know that only 500 cities are served by the major airlines, whereas general aviation has access to 5,000 airports across the country. Further, nearly 85% of companies using these aircraft are small and mid-sized businesses; the very kinds of enterprises that create the bulk of new jobs, especially in an economic climate like the one we're currently facing.

Given the crisis which has been created in this entire economic sector, it is not enough to remain silent. Mr. President, we call on you to speak out. Use your bully pulpit to help change the toxic perceptions about general aviation and its contribution to the American economy.

Please help. Speak out in support of general aviation today.

Sincerely,

Mayor Carl Brewer	Wichita, KS
Mayor Steve Van Oort	Ankeny, IA
Mayor Gene Wright	Quinwood, WV
Mayor Patrick Hays	North Little Rock, AR
Mayor Terry Lutz	Fort Dodge, IA
Mayor Tim Armstrong	Madison, IN
Mayor John Marks	Tallahassee, FL
Mayor Michael Gomez	Douglas, AZ
Mayor Blaine O'Neal	South Daytona, FL
Mayor David Hahn	Wall, SD
Mayor Rick Fernau	Show Low, AZ
Mayor Bill Brooks	Belle Isle, FL

Mayor Fred Bott	Devils Lake, ND
Mayor Frank Ortis	Pembroke Pines, FL
Mayor Michael Yates	Gulfport, FL
Executive R W Gilbert	Lincoln County, KY
Vice Mayor Mary Lawson Brown	Palatka, FL
Vice Mayor Allegra Webb Murphy	Oakland Park, FL
County Mayor J. Cunningham	Blount, TN
Deputy Vice Mayor Margaret Bates	Lauderhill, FL
Mayor Roger Van Horn	Nacogdoches, TX
City Manager Jim Jeffers	Nacogdoches, TX
Executive Kent Clark	Madison, KY
Councilman Richard Radcliff	Greenacres, FL
County Mayor Larry Lay	Union County, TN
Executive Wayne T. Rutherford	Pike, KY
Mayor Dixie Lee	Fredonia, AZ
Mayor Samuel Ferreri	Greenacres, FL
Executive Wallace Taylor	Estill, KY
Executive Raymond Hurst	Wolfe, KY
Mayor Carol McCormick	Palm Shores, FL
Executive Darren Farmer	Powell, KY
County Mayor Troy Kilzer	Chester, TN
Executive Sandy Lee Watkins	Henderson, KY
Airport Commissioner Jim Dailey	Little Rock, AR
Mayor Joy Cooper	Hallandale Beach, FL
Judge Harold, Gleinser	Goliad County, TX
Mayor Pro Tem Heyward Strong, Jr.	Valparaiso, FL
Mayor Robert F. Apgar	DeLand, FL
Executive David Jenson	Randolph County, AR
Executive Larry Tincher	Nicholas, KY
Mayor Di An Putnam	Winnemucca, NV
Executive Neal Cassity	Jessamine, KY
Councilwoman Dr. Roosevelt Johnson	Arcadia, FL
Mayor Jon Hickman	Ely, NV
Councilman Jim Jennings	Sanibel, FL
County Mayor Mark Hipsher	Garinger, TN
Mayor Lori Moseley	Miramar, FL
Mayor Dick Kirchoff	Le Mars, IA
Councilwoman Susan Starkey	Davie, FL
Councilwoman Leslie Curran	St. Petersburg, FL
Judge Buddy Villines	Pulaski County, AR
Mayor G Sam Lindsey	Wilcox, AZ
Mayor Jim Kight	Troutdale, OR
Executive John Wilson	Garrard, KY
Councilwoman Georgia Phillips	Rockledge, FL
Mayor Diana Joens	Cottonwood, AZ
Mayor Larry Schultz	Rockledge, FL
Mayor Miguel Villalpando	Somerton, AZ
Mayor Mark Fenn	Benson, AZ
Mayor Manuel Marona	Sweetwater, FL
Mayor Kelly Blunt	Wickenburg, AZ

County Judge Rod Waller  
Executive Kim Blaylock  
Mayor John Salem  
Airport Executive Director Larry Cox  
Mayor Susan Holecheck  
Mayor Randall Jay Norton  
Executive Anthony Holt  
Vice Mayor Carmine Priore

Scurry County, TX  
Putnam, TN  
Kingman, AZ  
Memphis, TN  
Mesquite, NV  
Duncan, AZ  
Sumner, TN  
Wellington, FL