

PROCLAMATION

**GENERAL AVIATION AND AEROSPACE APPRECIATION MONTH
September 2012**

WHEREAS, The aviation and aerospace industry represents 2% to 4% of the United States annual Gross Domestic Product, "GDP"; and

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 and farms; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions and aviation organizations and community airports and airport operators; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is home to 127 public use airports and six public use heliports, which serve 16,560 pilots and 8,244 based general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS, aviation in Pennsylvania is responsible for 304,460 jobs, or five percent of all jobs in the state. General aviation airports support over 8,550 of these jobs; and

WHEREAS, general aviation alone in Pennsylvania contributes \$1.3 billion to the state's economy. In fact, the State of Pennsylvania's Statewide Aviation System Plan estimated total contribution to be \$23.6 billion to the state economy yearly; and

WHEREAS, general aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is home to 67 charter flight companies, and over 40 flight schools. In addition, there are more than 140 fixed-based operators in the state; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, the Alliance for Aviation Across America, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, National Business Aviation Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, National Air Transportation Association and Flight School Association of North America, recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Pennsylvania and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, many communities in Pennsylvania depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our State.

THEREFORE, I, Tom Corbett, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and declare September to be GENERAL AVIATION AND AEROSPACE APPRECIATION MONTH.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-seventh day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Commonwealth, two hundred and thirty-seventh.



TOM CORBETT
Governor