

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, aviation plays a critical role in the lives of our citizens, as well as the operation of our businesses and agriculture; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has a significant interest in the continued vitality of aviation, aircraft and aerospace manufacturing, commercial service and community airports, and aviation education; and,

WHEREAS, there are 19 commercial service and 110 general aviation/community airports; and,

WHEREAS, more than 8.5 percent of Florida Gross Domestic Product results from businesses dependent upon aviation; and,

WHEREAS, Florida's commercial airports accommodate more than 143.5 million passengers annually, ranking Florida as second in the nation and its international airports accommodate more than 28 million international passengers annually, which is 19.5 percent of the total international passengers in the nation; and,

WHEREAS, more than half (52.7 percent) of Florida's visitors arrive each year by air; and,

WHEREAS, Florida's general aviation/community airports accommodate more than nine million visitors and business travelers annually; and,

WHEREAS, air cargo operations account for more than \$6.6 billion in annual economic activity to Florida, which represents eight percent of the nation's air cargo; and,

WHEREAS, aviation represents more than \$97 billion in annual economic activity with numerous leading aviation companies headquartered or with a major presence in Florida; and,

WHEREAS, organizations like the Florida Airports Council, Florida Aviation Business Association, Florida Aviation Aerospace Alliance, the Alliance for Aviation Across America, National Business Aviation Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, Aircraft Owner's and Pilot's Association and the National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Florida and throughout the world.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Collier County, Florida, that April 2014 be designated as

AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

DONE AND ORDERED THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH, 2014.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA**


TOM HENNING, CHAIRMAN

