## **Proclamation**

Whereas, general aviation and community airports, such as Harry P. Williams Memorial Airport, play a vital role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses and farms; and

Whereas, the State of Louisiana has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions and aviation organizations and community airports and airport operations; and

Whereas, Louisiana is home to 62 public use airports that serve 9,562 pilots and 4,891 active general aviation aircraft. Additionally, the state is home to 60 fixed-based operators, 35 repair stations, 8 flight schools and 520 heliports; and

Whereas, general aviation contributes an annual economic impact of 42.05 billion to Louisiana's economy; and

Whereas, aviation not only support Louisiana's economy, it improves our overall quality of life by providing essential emergency medical transportation, enhancing public safety by assisting law enforcement, and transporting business and leisure travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and

Whereas, the Nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important, public benefit, and direct, Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system; and

Therefore, I, Mayor Rodney A. Grogan of Patterson, Louisiana, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Patterson and declare May to be General Aviation Appreciation Month this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

Pamela Washington, City Clerk

Rodney A. Grogan, Mayor