



the City OF OPPORTUNITY

WHEREAS, the City of Decatur in the state of Alabama has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational institutions, aviation organizations and community airports; and

WHEREAS, general aviation and the Pryor Field Regional Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Decatur; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is home to 77 public-use airports, which serve 7,708 pilots and 4,396 registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is home to 72 fixed-base operators, 56 repair stations, 158 heliports, 6 FAA-approved pilot schools, 2,004 student pilots and 1,634 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation in Alabama contributes over \$3.1 billion to the state's total economic output; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Alabama's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and

WHEREAS, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place of this system to ensure that it remains a public system and serves communities of all sizes;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tab Bowling, Mayor of the City of Decatur, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Decatur and declare October as

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in the City of Decatur.

Tab R. Bowling, Mayor