



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Rhode Island General Aviation Appreciation Month

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 State of Rhode Island 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, general aviation is vital to many non-aviation businesses in Rhode Island, which use the system to move personnel, equipment and products; and

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

WHEREAS, there are 7 airports in the state, 5 of which are general aviation facilities; and

WHEREAS, according to a report released by the Rhode Island Airport Corporation in 2006, Rhode Island airports supported 14,167 jobs in the state, and Rhode Island's general aviation airports supported over 1,461 of those jobs; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is home to 5 charter flight companies, 9 repair stations, 4 flight schools, 1 helicopter tour operator, 1 skydiving operator, 6 fixed-based operators, and 457 general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS, general aviation in Rhode Island contributes approximately \$465 million, or \$460 per capita, to the state's economy; and


WHEREAS, organizations like the Rhode Island Business Aviation Association, Rhode Island Pilot's Association, Westerly Airport Association, Alliance for Aviation Across America, the National Business Aviation Association, Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, and National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Rhode Island and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, many communities in Rhode Island depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our state; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim August, 2012 as Rhode Island General Aviation Appreciation Month in the State of Rhode Island and call on all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island and
Providence Plantations,
this 16th day of August, 2012


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor


A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State