



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

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 agriculture; and

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

WHEREAS, there are 129 public-use airports in the state, serving 51,671 pilots and 25,328 general aviation aircraft and representing nearly 80 percent of all aircraft operations in the state; and

WHEREAS, the aviation industry in Florida supports over one million jobs with an annual payroll of over \$30 billion, and general aviation airports support over 54,000 jobs with an annual payroll of \$1.8 billion, and an economic benefit of \$6 billion; and

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

WHEREAS, Florida is home to 190 charter flight companies, 509 repair stations, three fractional providers, and 73 flight schools operating 858 aircraft and providing 3,500 jobs, and in addition, there are 154 fixed-based operators in the state; and

WHEREAS, many communities in Florida depend heavily upon general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce and tourism; and

WHEREAS, several leading general aviation companies have headquarters or a major presence in Florida, including renowned companies such as Piper, Piaggio, Embraer, Rockwell Collins, and Avidyne, that contribute many millions of dollars to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the Florida Airports Council, Florida Aviation Trades 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 National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Florida and throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing April 2013 as *General Aviation Appreciation Month*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 8th day of March, in the year two thousand thirteen.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", written over a horizontal line.
Governor