

**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, industry, ranches, and farms; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of General Aviation, including aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports, and airport operators; and

**WHEREAS,** West Virginia State has 32 public use airports serving 2,200 pilots and 1,370 General Aviation aircraft; and,

**WHEREAS,** General Aviation in West Virginia contributes \$616 million or \$333 per capita to the state's economy; and,

**WHEREAS**, General Aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and direct Congressional oversight is necessary to ensure stable funding of this system; and,

**WHEREAS,** West Virginia airports provide access to businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the National Air Transportation system and be connected to the world's global marketplace; and.

WHEREAS, many communities in West Virginia depend heavily on General Aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our State; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Kanawha County Commission hereby proclaims General Aviation to be a vital strategic resource to the State of West Virginia and declares October of 2015 to be General Aviation Appreciation Month.

Presented by the KANAWHA COUNTY COMMISSION Dated this 8th day of October, 2015

W. Kent Carper, President

Henry C. Shores, Commissioner

Dave Hardy, Commissioner