

Proclamation

WHEREAS, general aviation and community airports play a critical role in the lives of citizens, as well as in the operation of businesses and farms; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri 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, Missouri is home to 131 public use general aviation airports, which serve 15,882 pilots and 6,814 general aviation aircrafts; and

WHEREAS, general aviation contributes \$2.4 billion or \$437 per capita, to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, general aviation accounted for 16,000 jobs statewide as well as more than 160,000 tons of cargo transported each year; and

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

WHEREAS, Missouri is home to 31 charter flight companies, 54 repair stations, and 8 flight schools operating 86 aircraft; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim March 2011 to be

GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 22nd day of March, 2011.

Attest:

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Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon

Governor

Secretary of State