

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATEMENT IN OBSERVANCE OF DELAWARE GENERAL AVIATION 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 Delaware 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, according to the Delaware Airports Economic Impact Assessment, airports in Delaware support a total economic impact of more than \$1 billion annually, while general aviation airports support more than \$171.3 million of economic activity in the State of Delaware annually; and

Whereas, according to the Delaware Department of Transportation, there are nine publicuse general aviation airports in the state, which serve 1,365 pilots and 1,885 active general aviation aircrafts; and

Whereas, according to the Delaware Airports and Aviation Economic Impact Assessment, airports support more than 12,000 jobs in the state; and

Whereas, Delaware State University (DSU - an HBCU) is home of the DSU professional pilot program and Delaware Technical College (Delaware Tech) has aviation programs across the state training future aviation maintenance technicians in both the airframe and power plant curriculums; and

Whereas, according to the FAA, Delaware is home to eight repair stations, three FAA approved pilot schools, 334 flight students and 242 flight instructors. In addition, the AC-U-KWIK directory states there are eight fixed-base operators registered in the state. According to the Helicopter Association International, there are 50 heliports in Delaware; and

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

Whereas, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system.

Now, Therefore, I, Jack A. Markell, Governor, do hereby declare June, 2016

DELAWARE GENERAL AVIATION MONTH

throughout Delaware and encourage all citizens to join us in its observance.

Jack A. Markell Governor

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