



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 farms; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida 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, Florida is home to 129 public use airports, which serve 51,671 pilots and 25,287 general aviation aircraft; and

WHEREAS, Florida general aviation airports contribute \$6 billion or \$462 per capita, to the state's economy, with a payroll of \$1.8 billion; and

WHEREAS, aviation plays a huge role in Florida's economy, with 54% of Florida jobs being somehow dependent on airports. General aviation plays an integral role in the state with these airports handling nearly 80% of all aircraft operations in Florida; 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, 517 repair stations, 3 fractional providers, and 74 flight schools operating 858 aircraft and providing 3,500 jobs. In addition, there are 154 fixed-based operators in the state; and

WHEREAS, many communities in Florida depend heavily on General Aviation and Community Airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our State.

WHEREAS, several leading general aviation companies have facilities in Florida including Piper, Piaggio, Embraer, Rockwell Collins, and Avidyne that contribute greatly to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the Florida Airports Council, Florida Aviation Trade Association, the Alliance for Aviation Across America, National Business Aviation Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, 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 June 2011 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 7th day of June, in the year two thousand eleven.

A blue ink signature of Rick Scott, Governor of Florida.

Governor