

Paul R. LePage

STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

September 1, 2016

Greetings,

The State of Maine has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation through airport operators, aerospace and aviation education, aircraft manufacturing and organizations statewide that are part of the aviation community. There are 70 public-use airports in Maine, serving 2,450 pilots and 1,188 active general aviation aircraft according to the FAA.

As well, Maine houses 14 repair stations, 4 FAA-approved pilot schools, 399 flight students and 384 flight instructors. General aviation supports over 1,500 jobs and a payroll of \$39.4 million annually, according to the Economic Impacts of Airports in Maine study.

Our communities depend on general aviation to support Maine's response to emergencies, natural disasters, and rescue missions; as well as on our community airports for continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our great state.

I appreciate general aviation, a vital strategic resource to the State of Maine and the resources they provide to the people of Maine as well as our Nation.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage

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Governor of Maine Paul R. LePage