

PROCLAMATION **AVIATION MONTH**MARCH 2018

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, public airports and airport operations; and

WHEREAS, aviation and the aerospace industry continue to play an increasing role as an economic catalyst in North Dakota, creating over 32,000 jobs and contributing an estimated \$3.6 billion annually to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota has 89 public-use airports across the state, serving over 3,300 in-state pilots and over 2,000 state registered aircraft; and

WHEREAS, career and technical education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills, which provide them with career choices and potential satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, 2.1 million passengers utilized commercial air transportation within North Dakota in 2017 and contributed over \$500 million to the state's economy through commercial passenger visitor spending; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota is home to world-class aviation education opportunities, product development and technological advancement. North Dakota is home to one of seven designated Unmanned Aircraft System test sites in the nation where research is being conducted to help integrate this new industry into the national airspace system; and

WHEREAS, aviation is also an essential part of our agricultural productivity as 101 aerial applicator businesses provided services to over 2.5 million acres of crops in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the communities within North Dakota depend heavily on their community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and visitors to our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim MARCH 2018, **AVIATION MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgun Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger (Secretary of State