



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**General Aviation Appreciation Month**

**WHEREAS**, general aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, businesses, communities and farms; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Rhode Island 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**, general aviation in Rhode Island supports 1,476 jobs in the state, resulting in more than \$213 million in annual economic output; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island is home to seven public-use airports, which serve 1,283 pilots and 449 active general aviation aircraft; and

**WHEREAS**, we are home to five repair stations, two FAA-approved pilot schools, and seven fixed-base operators; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation plays a vital role in the state's response to emergencies and natural disasters, rescue operations such as air ambulance transports by fixed wing and rotor craft, in addition to police, warden, and mail service that routinely utilize general aviation to support daily operations and communication; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation not only contributes to Rhode Island's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting, and disaster relief; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit, and Congressional oversight should be in place for this system to ensure that it remains a public system and serves communities of all sizes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim April 2019, as: ***General Aviation Appreciation Month*** in the state and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource that aviation is in Rhode Island.



  
Nellie M. Gorbea  
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 4 day of March, 2019

  
Gina M. Raimondo  
Governor