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## Proclamation

WHEREAS, general aviation and community airports play critical roles in the lives of Washingtonians, as well as the operation of businesses, industry, ranches and farms; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, educational institutions, aviation organizations, and community airports and airport operators; and

WHEREAS, Washington is home to public use airports serving an average of 18,548 pilots and 9,668 general aviation aircraft annually; and

**WHEREAS**, public use airports support 248,500 jobs, \$15.3 billion in wages, and \$50.9 billion in total economic activity; and

WHEREAS, general aviation plays a vital role in our state's response to emergencies and natural disasters, and many communities depend on it for the continued flow of commerce and tourists; and

WHEREAS, Washington is home to 43 charter flight companies, 107 repair stations, and 28 schools and providing 392 jobs, as well as 44 fix-based operators in the state; and

WHEREAS, organizations including the Washington Airport Management Association, Washington Pilot's Association, Washington Public Ports Association, Recreational Aviation Foundation, Washington Seaplane Pilots Association, Washington Community Airports Association, Alliance for Aviation Across America, Pacific Northwest Business Aviation Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, National Business Aviation Association, and National Air Transportation Association recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in our state and throughout the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 2016 as

## General Aviation Appreciation Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 13th day of April, 2016

Gwernor Jay Inslee