

Columbus, Georgia

Georgia's First Consolidated Government

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, Columbus Georgia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational institutions, aviation organizations, and community airports; and
- WHEREAS, General aviation and the Columbus Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of Columbus; and
- WHEREAS, The 2020 Georgia Statewide Airport Economic Impact Study found that general aviation airports in the state support annual business revenues of more than \$1.9 billion, more than 14,500 jobs, and a payroll of over \$600 million; and
- WHEREAS, According to the Georgia Department of Transportation, the state has 95 public-use airports. These airports serve almost 22,700 pilots and more than 8,000 registered aircraft; and
- WHEREAS, According to the FAA, the state is home to 132 repair stations, 15 FAA-approved pilot schools, more than 7,200 student pilots, and more than 4,100 flight instructors; and
- WHEREAS, General aviation not only supports Georgia's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting, disaster relief, investments in sustainable fuels and technologies, and investments in innovative experimental technology like Vertical Takeoff and Landing vehicles, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and
- WHEREAS, The United States faces a shortage of aviation professionals, leaders should invest in this critical infrastructure to ensure future economic growth and our next generation of aviation professionals and pilots; and
- WHEREAS, The National Celebration of GA Flyover in Washington, D.C. commemorates the last 85 years in general aviation and the 85th anniversary of the founding of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor of Columbus, Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2024, as

General Aviation Appreciation Month

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of Columbus, Georgia, to be affixed this twenty fourth day of April 2024.



HONORABLE B.H. "SKIP" HENDERSON III
MAYOR
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA