

General Aviation Appreciation Month

WHEREAS: General aviation and community airports play a vital role in the lives of our citizens, as well as in the operation of our businesses and farms; and

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

WHEREAS: Indiana is home to 114 public use airports that serve 10,621 pilots and 3,151 active general aviation aircraft. Additionally, the state is home to 68 fixed-based operators, 67 repair stations and 4 flight schools; and

WHEREAS: General aviation contributes an annual economic impact of \$5.88 billion to Indiana's economy which supports 32,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS: Aviation not only support Indiana's economy, it improves our overall quality of life by providing essential emergency medical transportation, enhancing public safety by assisting law enforcement, and transporting business and leisure travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and

WHEREAS: The nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important, public benefit, and direct, Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Mayor of Gary, Indiana, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Gary and declare June to be General Aviation Appreciation Month.

Dated this 1st day of June, 2014

Signed,

Karen Freeman-Wilson, Mayor