Office of the Mayor Lake Charles, Louisiana

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Lake Charles in the state of Louisiana 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 Lake Charles Regional Airport have a significant economic impact on the City of Lake Charles; and

Whereas, the 2022 Louisiana Airports Economic Impact Study Update found that general aviation airports in the state support an annual economic impact of \$1.1 billion, more than 10,600 jobs, and a total payroll of over \$459 million; and

Whereas, according to the FAA, the state has 61 general aviation airports. These airports serve more than 6,200 pilots and 3,550 registered aircraft; and

Whereas, according to the FAA, the state is home to 29 repair stations, 8 FAA-approved pilot schools, more than 2,300 student pilots, and over 900 flight instructors; and

WHEREAS, general aviation not only supports Louisiana's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, NICHOLAS E. HUNTER, Mayor of the City of Lake Charles, in the sovereign State of Louisiana, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of August as General Aviation Appreciation Month.

In Witness Whereof, | have

hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Lake Charles on this

Date: August 1, 2023

Nicholas E. Hunter Mayor of Lake Charles