West Virginia General Aviation Appreciation Month

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

WHEREAS: The state of West Virginia 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: West Virginia State has 32 public use airports serving 2,200 pilots and 1,370 general aviation aircraft.

WHEREAS: General aviation in West Virginia contributes \$616 million or \$333 per capita to the states economy.

WHEREAS: General aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS: The nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important, public benefit, and direct, Congressional oversight is necessary to ensure stable funding of this system.

WHEREAS: West Virginia airports provide access to businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the National Air Transportation system and connected to the world's global marketplace.

WHEREAS: Many communities in West Virginia depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists, and visitors to our State; and

THEREFORE: I, Robert D. Newell, Mayor of Parkersburg, WV do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the State of West Virginia and wish to declare October of 2014 to be General Aviation Appreciation Month.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 7th day of October in the year two thousand fourteen.

Robert D. Newell, Mayor

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