Proclamation

Washington 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 Washington 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: Washington State has 135 public use airports serving 20,028 pilots and 7,585 general aviation aircraft.

WHEREAS: Public use airports support 248,500 jobs, \$15.3 billion in wages, and \$50.9 billion in total economic activity.

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: Washington is home to 59 charter flight companies, 116 repair stations, and 24 flight schools operating 181 aircraft and providing 360 jobs. In addition, there are 64 fixed-based operators in the state.

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

THEREFORE: I, Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor of the City of Wenatchee, Washington, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the State of Washington and wish to declare each June of this and subsequent years to be General Aviation Appreciation Month.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have caused the seal of the City of Wenatchee to be affixed on this 5^{th} day of June, 2014.

Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor