

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, *the City of Pascagoula in the state of Mississippi 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 Trent Lott International Airport have an immense economic impact on the City of Pascagoula; and*

WHEREAS, *Mississippi is home to 66 public-use general aviation airports, which serve 4,126 pilots and 2,037 active general aviation aircraft; and*

WHEREAS, *Mississippi is home to 61 fixed-based operators, 22 repair stations, 250 heliports, 5 FAA-approved pilot schools, 1,031 flight students and 653 flight instructors; and*

WHEREAS, *general aviation in Mississippi contributes over \$488 million to the state's economy each year; and*

WHEREAS, *general aviation not only supports Mississippi's economy, it improves overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, and by transporting business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely; and*

WHEREAS, *the nation's aviation infrastructure represents an important public benefit and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, *Harry Blevins, Mayor of the City of Pascagoula, do hereby proclaim general aviation a vital strategic resource to the City of Pascagoula and declare February as*

"GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH"

I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official seal of the City of Pascagoula to be affixed.



Harry J. Blevins

Harry J. Blevins
Mayor