



## COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY

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### PROCLAMATION MARYLAND GENERAL AVIATION APPRECIATION MONTH SEPTEMBER 2016

**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 and farms; and

**WHEREAS**, Talbot County and the State of Maryland have a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, aerospace, aircraft manufacturing, aviation educational institutions, aviation organizations, community airports and airport operators; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Maryland has 35 public-use General Aviation airports serving 7,782 pilots and 2,774 general aviation aircraft, and general aviation supports 6,317 jobs across the state; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2015 Maryland Economic Impact of Airports Study found that the annual economic impact of general aviation in Maryland is over \$704 million in business-generated revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, Easton Airport is home base to 214 general aviation aircraft providing a total of 483 direct and indirect jobs generating \$42,461,000 in local business revenue, \$20,060,000 in local purchasing revenue, and \$2,126,000 in State and local tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, general aviation not only supports Maryland's economy, it improves the overall quality of life by supporting emergency medical healthcare services, law enforcement, firefighting and disaster relief, the transportation of business travelers to their destinations quickly and safely, and plays a vital role in the State's response to emergencies and natural disasters, including rescue operations such as air ambulance transports by fixed wing and rotorcraft, as well as police, warden, and mail services routinely utilized to support daily operations and communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the nation's infrastructure represents an important public benefit and Congressional oversight should be in place to ensure stable funding of this system since many communities in Maryland depend heavily on general aviation and community airports for the continued flow of commerce, tourists and official visitors to our state;

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY**, do hereby proclaim general aviation to be a vital strategic resource to Talbot County and the State of Maryland and declare September to be General Aviation Appreciation Month in Talbot County.