Proclamation

by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

Whereas, West Virginia general aviation and local airports play a critical role in the lives of our citizens, businesses, communities, and the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, general aviation in West Virginia supports 5,300 jobs in the state, resulting in $256 million in labor income. In addition, general aviation contributes over $1 billion to the state's total economic output annually; and

Whereas, West Virginia has seventeen general aviation airports serving more than 1,806 pilots and 855 active general aviation aircrafts; and

Whereas, general aviation benefits West Virginia through corporate, private, charter and air taxi travel; shipping and express air freight services; firefighting; public safety and law enforcement; weather and traffic reporting; and recreation and tourism; and

Whereas, general aviation plays a vital role in the State's response to natural disasters, medical emergencies, search and rescue operations, and a wide range of critical resources; and

Whereas, with the State's geography, large numbers of businesses and communities depend on general aviation aircrafts for access to medical treatment, economic opportunity, and communication; and

Whereas, West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of general aviation, the aerospace industry, West Virginia airports, aircraft manufacturing and repair stations, and aviation education; and

Whereas, West Virginia airports provide access for businesses and tourists to isolated areas, enabling businesses to remain part of the Nation's Air Transportation System and connected to the world's global marketplace; and

Whereas, the use of general aviation by businesses and farms in West Virginia is directly tied to the future growth and prosperity of the State.

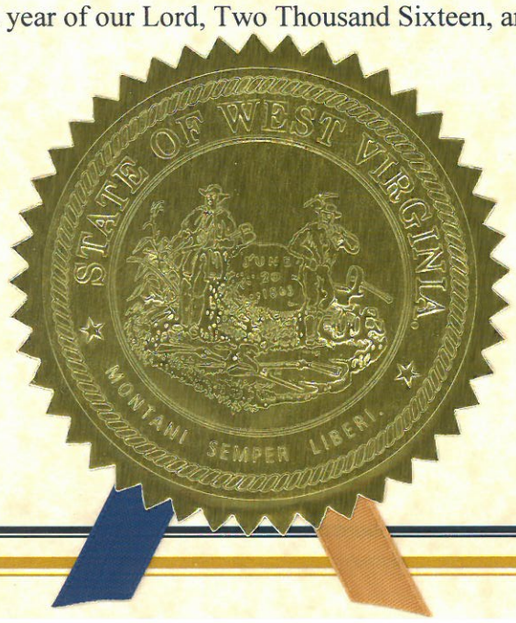
Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim ***October 2016*** as:

General Aviation Appreciation Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital strategic resource that aviation is in West Virginia.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Second day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Sixteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Fourth year of the State.



Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State