

STATE OF KANSAS



**PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR**

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, In our nation's history, aviation has been a unique and transformative force that has become a key component of the American experience, serving as a source of great pride, economic growth and patriotism, providing a strong balance of trade, and facilitating the face-to-face conduct of business that has made this country the leading engine of prosperity in the world; and

WHEREAS, The state of Kansas has played a foundational role in aviation's significant impact on our culture and our history by producing more than 250,000 aircraft—a far greater number than any other site on the planet, and the United States leads the world in aviation manufacturing, technology development and utilization, and more than 70 percent of the world's active general aviation flying is done inside our borders; and

WHEREAS, The state of Kansas is the birthplace of and continues to be a base for many of the world's leading aircraft manufacturers including, Boeing, Cessna, Hawker Beechcraft, Bombardier Learjet, and Spirit AeroSystems, and an impressive list of their suppliers, and general aviation directly contributes more than \$150 billion to the U.S. economy annually and employs more than 1,200,000 people nationwide, whose collective earnings exceed \$50 billion; and

WHEREAS, Given our state's geography, a great many businesses and communities depend upon General Aviation aircraft and small aircraft of all types for mobility, access to medical treatment, economic opportunity, disaster relief and a wide range of critical resources. Business aviation is an invaluable tool for companies in Kansas to support their operations; and

WHEREAS, Aviation manufacturers and suppliers account for more than 30,000 jobs in Kansas and for every aviation job in the state, three more are created, and aviation and related businesses add more than \$7 billion to the state's annual economy and are responsible for an overwhelmingly favorable balance of trade by exporting billions of dollars worth of aircraft each year; and

WHEREAS, Educational and research organizations such as the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University and the National Center for Aviation Training provide world-class research, training and expertise to aerospace entities throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Kansas' McConnell Air Force Base employs 5,328 active duty National Guard and civilian personnel and contributes more than \$408 million annually to the State's economy and is home to the largest air-refueling wing in the United States Air Force, operating 63 KC-135 tankers; and

WHEREAS, Organizations such as the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, National Business Aviation Association, National Air Transportation Association, Experimental Aircraft Association, National Association of State Aviation Officials, and the Wichita Aero Club recognize and promote the interests and importance of aviation in Kansas and throughout the world:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK PARKINSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim February, 2010 as

Aviation Appreciation Month

in Kansas.



DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of the
State this 25th day of
January, A.D. 2010

BY THE GOVERNOR:



Secretary of State

Assistant Secretary of State