

# Proclamation

by Governor Joe Manchin III

**Whereas,** aviation and aircraft manufacturing plays a critical role in the lives of our citizens, businesses and farms; and,

**Whereas,** the state of West Virginia has a significant interest in the continued vitality of the health of General Aviation, aircraft manufacturing, airline industries, educational institutions, aviation organizations and companies such as Aurora Flight Sciences, Bombardier Aerospace, Lockheed Martin, Pratt & Whitney and Tiger Aircraft that have manufacturing and repair facilities in the state; and,

**Whereas,** West Virginia has 34 airports serving 1,859 pilots and 1,348 general aviation aircraft; and,

**Whereas,** aircraft manufacturing is important to the state's economy, with aerospace employment increasing by nearly 600 jobs between 2000 and 2005, making it one of the fastest-growing sectors of the West Virginia economy; and,

**Whereas,** total direct and indirect jobs attributed to the local aerospace industry number total about 3,200, providing a direct wage and benefit impact of about \$46 million; and,

**Whereas,** General Aviation in West Virginia contributes \$616 million, or \$333 per capita to the state's economy; and,

**Whereas,** West Virginia is home to eight charter flight companies, 12 repair stations, and three flight schools operating 10 aircrafts and providing 15 jobs with 20 fixed-based operators in the state; 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 access to medical treatment, mobility, economic opportunity, disaster relief and a wide range of critical resources; and,

**Whereas,** use of General Aviation by businesses and farms in West Virginia are directly tied to the future growth and prosperity of the State;

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Joe Manchin III, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim **January 2010** 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 Thirtieth day of December, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nine, and in the One Hundred Forty-seventh year of the State.



  
Joe Manchin III  
Governor

By the Governor:



Natalie E. Tennant  
Secretary of State