



SAN Update

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General Aviation Recognized for Contributions to Alabama's Economy and Communities

National general aviation organizations recently welcomed Alabama Governor Robert Bentley's proclamation declaring October 2012 as "General Aviation Appreciation Month." All across Alabama, general aviation is a vital transportation resource that ties individuals, businesses and communities together. Twenty-seven of NATA's member companies reside in a state that has approximately 235 airport facilities, including 92 public and 8 privately owned airports and heliports. Annually, nearly \$800 million in revenue is contributed to the state's economy as a result of general aviation, according to the Alliance for Aviation Across America.

"Essential services in Alabama such as fire-fighting, law enforcement, and medical transport, among others, all rely heavily on general aviation," stated NATA President and CEO Tom Hendricks. "This proclamation helps to raise awareness of the importance of general aviation and local airports in Alabama and across the country."

The governor has always supported the aviation community, and recently signed a bill that aims to offset the state sales tax for aviation companies that wish to locate or expand in the state. The goal of the bill was to recruit more aviation industries for the state.