WHEREAS; Wisconsin's public-use airports provide reliable access to regional and world markets for business and leisure travelers, transporting millions of passengers and hundreds of millions of pounds of cargo each year; and

WHEREAS; aviation is a key driver of the state's economy, improves Wisconsinites' quality of life, and enhances public safety by providing vital emergency medical transportation and assisting law enforcement; and

WHEREAS; in 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) supported these valuable assets by managing more than \$107 million in investments for airport development and safety projects; and

WHEREAS; in addition to managing aviation-related funds, WisDOT works to foster a love of flight amongst Wisconsin's kids through the facilitation of the Aviation Careers Education program, which provides high school students with valuable work experience, mentoring, and first-hand knowledge about aviation careers; and

WHEREAS; WisDOT also partners with the Wisconsin Airport Management Association to operate the Fly Wisconsin Airport Passport program, encouraging recreational flight to Wisconsin's airports, increasing safety knowledge, and further developing piloting skills for thousands of pilots throughout the world; and

WHEREAS; from July 22 through July 28, the focus of the aeronautics world will be on the Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, where the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) AirVenture, colloquially referred to as the "World's Greatest Aviation Celebration," takes place, hosting approximately 677,000 people and 10,000 aircraft and generating roughly \$170 million in economic impact for the region; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins WisDOT in recognizing the contributions of the aviation industry to the state, wishing EAA AirVenture a successful event, and encouraging Wisconsinites of all ages to celebrate the impact and value of aviation across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 22 through 28 2024 as

## **AVIATION WEEK**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28th day of June 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State