PROCLAMATION

In Support and Recognition of

"California Aviation Day" April 22, 2015



- WHEREAS, Aviation is vital to California's economy! Airports and aviation create jobs, and provide vital services to individuals, families, churches, hospitals, colleges, and large and small businesses; and
- WHEREAS, California's 245 public airports serve as potential staging areas for emergency response during major catastrophic events, as well as aerial support of fire suppression efforts, such as the U.S. Forest Service's Air Tanker Base recently locating at Castle Airport; and
- WHEREAS, Aviation in California contributes \$154.7 billion (4.8%) to the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and
- **WHEREAS,** California is home to 30,008 FAA-registered aircraft, 10% of the nation's total aircraft, and 61,185 FAA-certified pilots, 11% of the nation's total; and
- **WHEREAS,** Aviation-related employment accounts for 1.1 million jobs in California, a \$46.5 billion payroll and 5.5% of the U.S. GDP;
- **WHEREAS,** 179 million passengers and 4 million tons of air cargo pass through California's airports each year; and
- whereas, the Board of Supervisors recognizes that in today's global marketplace, a local airport is a valuable resource and the County of Merced is fortunate to have five airports; Castle Airport, Merced Regional Airport, Los Banos Municipal Airport, Turlock Municipal Airport and, Gustine Airport within its geographical boundaries;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, WE, the Merced County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim support and recognition of "California Aviation Day" on April 22, 2015 in Merced County and commends this observance to all our residents.

Hub Walsh, District Two

Deidre F. Kelsey, District Four

Daron McDaniel, District Three

Jerry O'Banion, District Five

John Pedrozo, Chairman District One