



BILL OWENS
GOVERNOR

AVIATION DAY
December 17, 2003

WHEREAS, on December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers achieved the first powered flight of a "heavier-than-air" aircraft, laying the foundation for some of the greatest advancements in innovation and technology witnessed by humankind; and

WHEREAS, following in the Wrights' footsteps, the State of Colorado has become a leader in the aerospace industry with a rich history of aviation innovations and firsts, including the state's first flight on February 1, 1910; in 1946, home to the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron, the nation's first Air National Guard Unit; in 1955, the establishment of the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs; and in 1988 the Colorado Aeronautical Board created by statute; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Governor Bill Owens created Colorado's first Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics by executive order to drive the economic development of Colorado's aerospace and aeronautics industry; and

WHEREAS, Colorado is a leader in the nation's aerospace industry, and home to numerous corporations on the cutting edge of advancements in aviation and aerospace technologies; and

WHEREAS, the future of aviation is dependent upon the support of people with a direct involvement in and appreciation for this celebration of powered flight, which is also a celebration of the ingenuity and creativity of Americans;

Now Therefore, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim December 17, 2003,

AVIATION DAY

in the State of Colorado.



*GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of Colorado,
this twenty-seventh day of October,
2003*

Bill Owens.
Bill Owens