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Mike King, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 30, 2013

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# Governor Brownback Proclaims September as Aviation Appreciation Month

Gov. Sam Brownback signed a proclamation Aug. 23 declaring September as Aviation Appreciation Month. The proclamation celebrates Kansas' aviation history and recognizes the inaugural Kansas Aviation Expo that takes place at the National Center for Aviation Training from Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.

Kansas is home to one of only five aviation clusters in the world, the air capital of the world and is often considered the birthplace of general aviation. That rich aviation history began in September 1911 when Albin K. Longren was the first Kansan to fly a Kansas made aircraft. September is also the month when the Kansas Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation, in conjunction with several industry partners, will host the first-ever Kansas Aviation Expo.

On Wednesday, September 25, Jesse R. Romo, acting director of KDOT Aviation, will present the Governor's proclamation to the Wichita Aero Club at their luncheon, which features Selena Shilad from the Alliance for Aviation Across America.

"We're excited to present this proclamation that recognizes aviation as a major contributor to our economy and state's history, and to launch a new tradition in celebrating our industry through the Kansas Aviation Expo," Romo said.

Scott Ernest, the CEO of Cessna, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, Sept. 26, during a take-off event for the Kansas Aviation Expo. That event will be followed by a day filled with business sessions that are designed to appeal to the wide

interest of aviation stakeholders and will include guest speakers from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Weather Service and many more.

For more information regarding the Kansas Aviation Expo, go to the event website at <http://ksaeroeducation.com/KCAExpo.html>; or contact Romo at 785-296-2553 or email [jromo@ksdot.org](mailto:jromo@ksdot.org).

This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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