

## NEW YORK ENACTS AVIATION JOBS ACT TAX REFORM

**Albany, NY** – April 14, 2015 – New York Aviation Management Association (NYAMA) applauds the enactment of the New York Aviation Jobs Act (AJA) into law. Passed by the Assembly and Senate earlier in the month, Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2015 was signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo on Monday, April 13, 2015.

The new measure will exempt general aviation aircraft and machinery or equipment that is installed on these aircraft from the state's sales and use taxes beginning September 1, 2015. The current tax is seen as a financial barrier to aircraft locations to New York because most other surrounding states do not charge sales taxes or have more favorable tax treatment for such aircraft sales and basings.

"The signing of the AJA marks an historic occasion for the aviation industry in New York," said Michael Giardino, President of the New York Aviation Management Association and Director of Aviation for the Greater Rochester International Airport. "We commend the Legislature and Governor Andrew Cuomo for eliminating the regionally-unique state tax penalty for aircraft ownership. This exemption will serve as a vital economic development tool that will put New York on par with other states and will benefit the entire state by attracting more taxable aviation-related activities to New York."

New York lost over 700 planes since 2002 as a result of more favorable tax treatment and aggressive marketing and airport-development strategies undertaken by other states in the region. According to the NYS Department of Transportation, each business jet, on average, means five direct on-airport jobs and \$1 million of annual economic activity.

The budget language was sponsored by NYS Senator Philip Boyle (R-Bay Shore) and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo (D-Endwell) and reforms the state's aviation taxes to allow New York to better compete with neighboring states for job-creating business aircraft. Senator Boyle and Assemblywoman Lupardo are co-chairs of the bi-partisan New York Legislative Aviation Caucus which has over 119 members from both houses.

The AJA was advanced with the strong support by NYAMA, an organization of over 13,000 members and affiliate members, 120 commercial service and general aviation airports, fixed based operators, consultants, engineers and other aviation industries and professionals who believe that serious economic development efforts at the state and regional level necessitate strong public investment in our aviation assets and facilities.

NYAMA's efforts were joined by affiliate organizations including the National Business Aviation Association and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and many other partners and companies.

###