

April 8, 2020

Governor Jared Polis

State Capitol Building
200 E. Colfax Ave., Rm. 136
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis,

On behalf of Colorado's general aviation industry and the members our Associations represent, thank you for recognizing the critical role aviation plays during times of crisis through your revision to the Stay-At-Home order recognizing airports as critical businesses. General aviation is uniquely positioned to provide essential services to our communities and our state through the rapid delivery of goods and personnel throughout Colorado, in particular those parts of the state not serviced by scheduled airline service. We write today to request further clarification to the Stay-At-Home order which specifically states that flight schools may remain open for the express purpose providing access to aircraft for the maintenance of pilot currency requirements.

Colorado's aviation industry, and the pilots, ground crews, fixed base operators, and supporting businesses, are ready to do our part during this time of need. Each year, the Colorado Aviation Business Association (CABA) partners with the Colorado Chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars on the Annual Christmas Holiday Charity Drive and Airlift, delivering donations to veterans and their families across the state. CABA, with the help of other state aviation groups and hundreds of volunteer pilots from across the state, is ready to adapt that model to help meet any need that has risen as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic for the rapid delivery of medical PPE, test kits, medications, or other supplies to any corner of the state.

In order to remain operational during this time and able to respond to public or private requests for aerial support, and to maintain other critical flights in support of essential services, our pilots need the ability to maintain takeoff/landing, night, and instrument currency. While flight schools are understandably closed at this time for instruction flights, many of our pilots require rental access to these aircraft for non-instructional, currency flight purposes. These are solo flights, so social distancing requirements can be maintained. Accordingly, we ask that your office clarify that such flights are permitted under the public health order, and that flight schools may remain open for the express purpose providing access to aircraft for the maintenance of pilot currency requirements. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has provided some helpful guidelines to the states concerning how to help keep our airspace open and safe during this difficult time. We would encourage you to adopt these guidelines.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of aviation in the state, and please know that Colorado's pilots and aviation community stand ready to help do our part in battling the COVID 19 epidemic.

Sincerely,



Colorado Aviation Business Association
Colorado Agricultural Aviation Association

Colorado Airport Operators Association
Colorado Seaplane Initiative
Colorado Pilot's Association
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
National Business Aviation Association