

**CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17(TRA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/16/16**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Supporting the aviation industry; and urging the governor to make state-owned land**  
2 **available to the unmanned aircraft systems industry for the management and operation**  
3 **of unmanned aircraft systems and related research, manufacturing, testing, and**  
4 **training.**

5 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 **WHEREAS** the overall health of the economy of the United States is highly  
7 dependent on the aviation industry; and

8 **WHEREAS** the civil aviation industry annually creates approximately 5.4 percent of  
9 the gross domestic product in the United States and contributes approximately  
10 \$1,500,000,000,000 to the economy nationwide; and

11 **WHEREAS** the aviation industry generates more than 11,800,000 jobs, with  
12 estimated total employment-related earnings of \$459,000,000,000; and

13 **WHEREAS** the state anticipates 173 new jobs in the unmanned aircraft systems  
14 industry that would generate approximately \$9,400,000 in employment-related earnings and  
15 an additional 175 jobs indirectly created by the unmanned aircraft systems industry that would

1 bring \$10,600,000 of employment-related earnings into the state's economy, as identified in  
2 the McDowell Group's May 2013 report for the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft  
3 Systems Integration at University of Alaska Fairbanks; and

4 **WHEREAS** the aviation industry enables the economic benefits of tourism, shipping,  
5 and travel for business or recreational purposes; and

6 **WHEREAS** ongoing development and implementation of unmanned aircraft systems  
7 technologies, policies, and procedures will support continuing economic growth in the  
8 aviation industry; and

9 **WHEREAS** the aviation industry affects the economies of large and small  
10 communities across the United States; and

11 **WHEREAS** the use and regulation of unmanned aircraft systems must be integrated  
12 with the use and regulation of manned aircraft systems to ensure that all aircraft can safely  
13 navigate national airspace; and

14 **WHEREAS** the state owns approximately 27 percent of the state's landmass, and the  
15 landmass of the state makes up approximately 20 percent of the landmass of the United  
16 States; therefore, the state owns approximately five percent of the landmass of the United  
17 States; and

18 **WHEREAS** the state can support the growth of the unmanned aircraft systems  
19 industry and the advancement of unmanned aircraft systems technology by facilitating the use  
20 or purchase of land by the unmanned aircraft systems industry for the purpose of research,  
21 manufacturing, testing, training, management, and operation;

22 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the economic growth  
23 of the unmanned aircraft systems industry in the state and encourages the establishment of  
24 safe and responsible unmanned aircraft systems businesses in the state; and be it

25 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the governor to  
26 make state-owned land available to responsible designers, owners, developers, and operators  
27 of commercial unmanned aircraft systems to use for research, manufacturing, testing, training,  
28 management, and operation of those systems.