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James A. Frisby
HCO4 Box 9587
Palmer, AK 99645
4-Mar-92

John
Frisby

Sen. Curt Menard
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Menard:

I have carefully reviewed SENATE BILL NO., 433, introduced by Senator Al Adams of Kotzebue.. While I am not a member of the Alaska Airmen's Association, I am indebted to that organization for bringing this matter to my attention. The additions/{DELETION} format used for the proposed changes to the existing statute make it very clear that this bill attempts to abuse the intent of the original statute and implement a discriminatory tax under the guise of a "registration fee".

As a former Alaska Army National Guard officer and pilot with over 20 years of service in the Alaska Guard, I certainly appreciate the intent of the statute as it stands. It sets forth requirements upon the aviation community in Alaska which support state and national security "AT THOSE TIMES DESIGNATED ... WHEN REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY BY REASON OF EMERGENCY OR MILITARY NECESSITY". It is most obvious that the original statute AS 02.20.010 was intended only to take force in state emergencies or wartime.

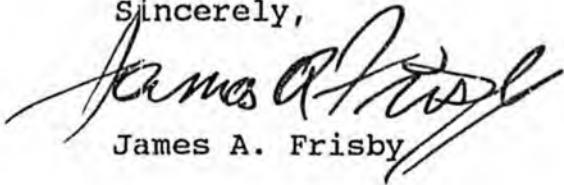
I cannot state strongly enough my opposition to this bill. It creates another tax on private aviation, the lifeblood of many Alaskans, it makes the State privy to information about our private aircraft to which it has no right, and which would be a ready made hit list for equipment thieves. It endows the DOT with unlimited power to invade the privacy of aircraft owners and operators by commissioning them to require "any additional information the department may require by regulation". This proposal is irresponsible for a government official such as Senator Adams.

While there may have been some merit in excluding commercial aircraft in the original statute, due to it's military purpose, there can be no justification of such an exclusion in your proposed bill. This provision in a tax bill, such as this must be labeled, is discriminatory and inexcusable.

Please Senator Menard, any support for this attempt to subvert the intent of a perfectly legitimate emergency provision into a high handed tax bill and privacy invasion would earn you the wrath of Alaskan airmen.

I strongly urge you to use any influence you have with the sponsors of this bill to get it withdrawn from consideration immediately, while their reputations may be salvaged.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Frisby". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

James A. Frisby

cc

EAA Chapter 975, Inc
P.O. Box 1851, Soldotna, Alaska, 99669

March 16, 1992

Jon

Hon. Curt Menard, Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee, Rm. 9
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Sirs:

I have reviewed Senate Bill 433 which is currently or soon to be in your committee and I do not feel this bill is in the best interests of the citizens of Alaska. On the face of it, this bill would generate revenue for the State in a time of decreasing revenues. This legislation exempts Commercial operators and levies its fees against the private or noncommercial aircraft owners of the State. We do not feel this to be a fair or equitable situation in and of itself. The fee is \$100.00 - 250.00 per aircraft per year and represents an unfair fee from several points of view. Aircraft are already subject to taxes at rates far above the levels of cars and other forms of transportation in a State that must use aircraft and boats in lieu of automobiles for much of the state. This represents an inequitable level of taxation as it is. When you try to add to this another unfair tax on aircraft, it appears to represent an absolute disregard for the rights of citizens of the state with special disregard for those who live in rural areas not served by roads or poorly served by roads.

Most of the aircraft covered by this bill are not located in Anchorage and are not flown as frivolous luxuries by wealthy individuals relatively unconcerned about the cost of flight. Many areas of the state are not served or are underserved by commercial aviation and the transport of persons and material are the province of private aircraft and private pilots who do this transport at no or little cost to those involved. This bill unfairly taxes those individuals and communities by making them pay for all. We are also concerned about where this revenue is spent. If we would be the target of a tax then we should benefit from it in some direct way. For the aircraft owner to be directly taxed and the revenues spent in a general fund for the good of all is both unfair and some would say unconstitutional. It is difficult to disguise this as a "user fee" when the fee is not spent for the benefit of the population from which it is derived. If it is not a "user fee", it is a tax levied against a few for the benefit of all and has not even the moral imperative of being

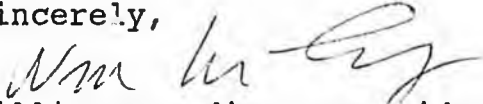
EAA Chapter 975, Inc

P.O. Box 1851, Soldotna, Alaska, 99669

levied against an abuser of the system, a criminal, or people who have indicated a willingness to take on an additional philanthropic burden for the good of society. Indeed most of these aircraft in rural areas are already contributing to the state and boroughs in a more than generous manner in the form of gasoline taxes, personal property taxes, increased maintenance costs, and federal government oversight/regulation.

In short, I would like you to drop Senate Bill 433 or vote it down and, if something of this sort is desired, discuss it with one of the several active aviation user groups in the state such as EAA, AOPA, Alaska Airmen's Association, etc. If your thoughts are to create better airports, more Navigational aids, and better passenger facilities in rural Alaska, you will find the Aviation people of this State easy to deal with and more than equal to the task.

Sincerely,



William M. Ediger, President
EAA Kenai Peninsula Chapter 975, Inc.

3-13-92

Jon

Senator Menard
Alaska State Legislature
State Capital
Juneau Alaska 99901-1182

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that Senator Adams and the Alaska Air Carriers Association have introduced senate bill #433.

This bill is intended to tax private aircraft with a registration fee and specifically excludes commercial aircraft.

Private aircraft already pay personal property and fuel tax that fund our use of local airports.

I feel that this is an unfair attack on private aircraft owners and I urge you to use all your powers in defeating this bill.

Sincerely,

Christine C. Bay

CHRISTINE C. BAY

P.O. BOX 870741
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