

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1996

Source
HJR 65

Legislative
Resolve No.
55



Relating to proposed Federal Aviation Administration regulations establishing crew member flight time limitations.

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

WHEREAS the Federal Aviation Administration is proposing to adopt regulations establishing limitations on crew member flight time that will have a negative effect on aviation safety and Alaska businesses; and

WHEREAS air taxi operations provide a valuable and necessary service to Alaskans, often being the sole means of delivering goods and services to rural communities; and

WHEREAS Alaska is unique in its geography, weather conditions, short summers, and long daylight hours and thus regulations and standards designed for the "Lower 48" states must be applied flexibly in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Alaska tourism industry creates seasonal employment opportunities that have allowed air taxi operators the opportunity to train experienced, dedicated, and professional pilots; and

WHEREAS, under current regulations, air taxi operators have established businesses that allow professional crew members to earn a viable income in a safe manner; and

WHEREAS Alaska's air taxi operators have provided a safe environment for their crew

members and the public; and

WHEREAS the proposed regulations will reduce the availability of experienced pilots on air taxi flights within Alaska and compel air service operations to utilize less experienced pilots which would affect aircraft maintenance rates, insurance rates, air fares, and accident rates; and

WHEREAS it is not in the public interest to disrupt the necessary and valuable service provided by air service operations in Alaska through the implementation of overly restrictive regulation; and

WHEREAS the National Air Transportation Association and the Alaska Air Carriers Association oppose the proposed regulations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Federal Aviation Administration to exempt Alaska from the application of the proposed regulations establishing crew member flight time limitations (14 C.F.R. Part 135.269 and 135.271).

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Federico F. Pena, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; the Honorable David R. Hinson, Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.