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AVIATION AMENDMENTS 2008 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH **Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper** Senate Sponsor: Wayne L. Niederhauser LONG TITLE **General Description:** This bill amends provisions in the Property Tax Act and the Uniform Aeronautical Regulatory Act relating to the taxation and registration of aircraft. **Highlighted Provisions:** This bill: amends the uniform fees for certain aircraft; • ► amends the registration fee for certain aircraft to 0.4% of the average wholesale Aircraft Bluebook Price Digest market value; exempts certain aircraft without an airworthiness certificate from registration ► requirements; provides a \$100 registration fee for: ► • aircraft not listed in the Aviation Bluebook Digest; aircraft 50 years of age or older; • experimental aircraft; and • • antique aircraft; • requires the Tax Commission to issue a registration card to an owner of an aircraft in compliance with the registration requirements; requires an owner of registered aircraft to carry a registration card in the owner's ► aircraft; requires the Tax Commission to register aircraft and collect certain fees; ►

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28	 requires the Utah Division of Aeronautics to maintain a statewide database of 						
29	aircraft based in the state;						
30	 requires that an airport owner provide a list of all aircraft based at the owner's 						
31	airport to the Utah Division of Aeronautics; and						
32	 makes technical changes. 						
33	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:						
34	None						
35	Other Special Clauses:						
36	This bill takes effect on January 1, 2009.						
37	Utah Code Sections Affected:						
38	AMENDS:						
39	59-2-404, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1999, Chapter 181						
40	72-10-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2003, Chapter 183						
41	72-10-110, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1999, Chapter 181						
42	72-10-116, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1998, Chapter 365 and renumbered and						
43	amended by Laws of Utah 1998, Chapter 270						
44	REPEALS:						
45	72-10-111, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 1998, Chapter 270						
46 47	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:						
48	Section 1. Section 59-2-404 is amended to read:						
49	59-2-404. Uniform fee on aircraft Collection of fee by commission						
50	Distribution of fees.						
51	[(1) There is levied in lieu of the ad valorem tax a uniform fee on aircraft required to						
52	be registered with the state in an amount equal to the following percent of the average						
53	wholesale market value of the aircraft as established by the commission:]						
54	[(a) for aerial applicators as defined in Section 59-2-102 as follows:]						
55	[Calendar Year Uniform Fee]						
56	[2000 0.4%]						
57	[2001 0.3%]						
58	[2002 and all subsequent years 0.2%; and]						

59	[(b) for all other aircraft required to be registered with the state as follows:]					
60	[Calendar Year Uniform Fee]					
61	[2000 0.8%]					
62	[2001 0.6%]					
63	[2002 and all subsequent years 0.4%.]					
64	(1) In accordance with Utah Constitution Article XIII, Section 2, Subsection (6),					
65	beginning on January 1, 2009, an aircraft, required to be registered with the state is:					
66	(a) exempt from the tax imposed by Section 59-2-103; and					
67	(b) in lieu of the tax imposed by Section 59-2-103, subject to a uniform statewide fee					
68	<u>of \$25.</u>					
69	(2) (a) The uniform fee shall be collected by the [counties] commission with the					
70	registration fee and distributed to the [taxing districts in accordance with Article XIII, Sec. 14,					
71	Utah Constitution] county in which the aircraft is based.					
72	(b) A based aircraft is an aircraft which is hangared, tied down, or parked at the airport					
73	for a plurality of the year.					
74	(3) (a) The uniform fees received by a county under Subsection (2) shall be distributed					
75	to each taxing entity within the county in the same proportion in which revenues collected from					
76	the ad valorem property tax are distributed.					
77	(b) Each taxing entity described in Subsection (3)(a) that receives revenues from the					
78	uniform fee imposed by this section shall distribute the revenues in the same proportion in					
79	which revenues collected from the ad valorem property tax are distributed.					
80	[(3)] (4) The commission shall promulgate rules to implement this section.					
81	Section 2. Section 72-10-102 is amended to read:					
82	72-10-102. Definitions.					
83	As used in this chapter:					
84	(1) "Acrobatics" means the intentional maneuvers of an aircraft not necessary to air					
85	navigation.					
86	(2) "Aeronautics" means transportation by aircraft, air instruction, the operation, repair,					
87	or maintenance of aircraft, and the design, operation, repair, or maintenance of airports, or					
88	other air navigation facilities.					
89	(3) "Aeronautics instructor" means any individual engaged in giving or offering to give					

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90	instruction in aeronautics, flying, or ground subjects, either with or without:					
91	(a) compensation or other reward;					
92	(b) advertising the occupation;					
93	(c) calling his facilities an air school, or any equivalent term; or					
94	(d) employing or using other instructors.					
95	(4) "Aircraft" means any contrivance now known or in the future invented, used, or					
96	designed for navigation of or flight in the air.					
97	(5) "Air instruction" means the imparting of aeronautical information by any aviation					
98	instructor or in any air school or flying club.					
99	(6) "Airport" means any area of land, water, or both, that:					
100	(a) is used or is made available for landing and takeoff;					
101	(b) provides facilities for the shelter, supply, and repair of aircraft, and handling of					
102	passengers and cargo; and					
103	(c) meets the minimum requirements established by the division as to size and design,					
104	surface, marking, equipment, and operation.					
105	(7) "Airport authority" means a political subdivision of the state, other than a county or					
106	municipality, that is authorized by statute to operate an airport.					
107	(8) "Air school" means any person engaged in giving, offering to give, or advertising,					
108	representing, or holding himself out as giving, with or without compensation or other reward,					
109	instruction in aeronautics, flying, or ground subjects, or in more than one of these subjects.					
110	(9) "Airworthiness" means conformity with requirements prescribed by the Federal					
111	Aviation Administration regarding the structure or functioning of aircraft, engine, parts, or					
112	accessories.					
113	[(10) "Antique aircraft" means a civil aircraft that is:]					
114	[(a) 30 years old or older, calculated as to include the current year;]					
115	[(b) primarily a collector's item and used solely for recreational or display purposes;]					
116	[(c) not used for daily or regular transportation; and]					
117	[(d) not used for commercial operations.]					
118	[(11)] (10) "Civil aircraft" means any aircraft other than a public aircraft.					
119	[(12)] (11) "Commercial aircraft" means aircraft used for commercial purposes.					
120	[(13)] (12) "Commercial airport" means a landing area, landing strip, or airport that					

121 may be used for commercial operations. [(14)] (13) "Commercial flight operator" means a person who conducts commercial 122 123 operations. 124 [(15)] (14) "Commercial operations" means: 125 (a) any operations of an aircraft for compensation or hire or any services performed 126 incidental to the operation of any aircraft for which a fee is charged or compensation is 127 received, including the servicing, maintaining, and repairing of aircraft, the rental or charter of 128 aircraft, the operation of flight or ground schools, the operation of aircraft for the application or 129 distribution of chemicals or other substances, and the operation of aircraft for hunting and 130 fishing; or 131 (b) the brokering or selling of any of these services; but 132 (c) does not include any operations of aircraft as common carriers certificated by the 133 federal government or the services incidental to those operations. 134 $\left[\frac{16}{15}\right]$ "Dealer" means any person who is actively engaged in the business of flying 135 for demonstration purposes, or selling or exchanging aircraft, and who has an established place 136 of business. 137 $\left[\frac{17}{10}\right]$ (16) "Division" means the Operations Division in the Department of 138 Transportation, created in Section 72-1-204. 139 [(18)] (17) "Experimental aircraft" means: 140 (a) any aircraft designated by the Federal Aviation Administration or the military as 141 experimental and used solely for the purpose of experiments, or tests regarding the structure or 142 functioning of aircraft, engines, or their accessories; and 143 (b) any aircraft designated by the Federal Aviation Administration as: 144 (i) being custom or amateur built; and 145 (ii) used for recreational, educational, or display purposes. 146 [(19)] (18) "Flight" means any kind of locomotion by aircraft while in the air. 147 [(20)] (19) "Flying club" means five or more persons who for neither profit nor reward 148 own, lease, or use one or more aircraft for the purpose of instruction, pleasure, or both. 149 $\left[\frac{(21)}{(20)}\right]$ "Glider" means an aircraft heavier than air, similar to an airplane, but 150 without a power plant. 151 [(22)] (21) "Mechanic" means a person who constructs, repairs, adjusts, inspects, or

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152 overhauls aircraft, engines, or accessories. 153 $\left[\frac{(23)}{(22)}\right]$ (22) "Parachute jumper" means any person who has passed the required test for 154 jumping with a parachute from an aircraft, and has passed an examination showing that he 155 possesses the required physical and mental qualifications for the jumping. 156 $\left[\frac{(24)}{(23)}\right]$ (23) "Parachute rigger" means any person who has passed the required test for 157 packing, repairing, and maintaining parachutes. 158 $\left[\frac{25}{25}\right]$ (24) "Passenger aircraft" means aircraft used for transporting persons, in 159 addition to the pilot or crew, with or without their necessary personal belongings. 160 [(26)] (25) "Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, or 161 association of individuals. 162 [(27)] (26) "Pilot" means any person who operates the controls of an aircraft while 163 in-flight. 164 [(28)] (27) "Primary glider" means any glider that has a gliding angle of less than ten to 165 one. 166 [(29)] (28) "Public aircraft" means an aircraft used exclusively in the service of any 167 government or of any political subdivision, including the government of the United States, of 168 the District of Columbia, and of any state, territory, or insular possession of the United States, 169 but not including any government-owned aircraft engaged in carrying persons or goods for 170 commercial purposes. 171 [(30)] (29) "Reckless flying" means the operation or piloting of any aircraft recklessly, 172 or in a manner as to endanger the property, life, or body of any person, due regard being given 173 to the prevailing weather conditions, field conditions, and to the territory being flown over. 174 [(31)] (30) "Registration number" means the number assigned by the Federal Aviation 175 Administration to any aircraft, whether or not the number includes a letter or letters. 176 [(32)] (31) "Secondary glider" means any glider that has a gliding angle between ten to 177 one and 16 to one, inclusive. 178 [(33)] (32) "Soaring glider" means any glider that has a gliding angle of more than 16 179 to one. 180 Section 3. Section 72-10-110 is amended to read: 181 72-10-110. Aircraft registration information requirements -- Registration fee --182 Administration -- Partial year registration.

183	(1) All applications for aircraft registration, including under Section 72-10-111, shall				
184	contain:				
185	(a) a description of the aircraft, including:				
186	(i) the manufacturer or builder;				
187	(ii) the aircraft registration number, type, year of manufacture, or if an experimental				
188	aircraft, the year the aircraft was completed and certified for air worthiness by an inspector of				
189	the Federal Aviation Administration; and				
190	(iii) gross weight;				
191	(b) the name and address of the owner of the aircraft; and				
192	(c) where the aircraft is located, or the address where the aircraft is usually used or				
193	based.				
194	(2) (a) Except as provided in Section 72-10-111 and Subsection (3), at the time				
195	application is made for registration or renewal of registration of an aircraft under this chapter,				
196	an annual registration fee [shall be paid as follows:] of 0.4% of the average wholesale value of				
197	the aircraft shall be paid.				
198	[(i) \$25 for each balloon, glider, ultralight, helicopter, or propellor driven aircraft;]				
199	[(ii) \$5,000 for each jet aircraft with a maximum gross takeoff weight under 20,000				
200	lbs.; and]				
201	[(iii) \$10,000 for each jet aircraft with a maximum gross takeoff weight of 20,000 lbs.				
202	or more.]				
203	(b) For purposes of calculating the value of the aircraft under Subsection (2)(a), the				
204	Tax Commission shall use the average wholesale value as stated in the Aircraft Bluebook Price				
205	Digest.				
206	(3) Notwithstanding Subsection (2):				
207	(a) the following aircraft shall pay an annual registration fee of \$100:				
208	(i) an aircraft not listed in the Aircraft Bluebook Price Digest; or				
209	(ii) an experimental aircraft.				
210	(b) An aircraft 50 years or older shall pay the lesser of:				
211	<u>(i) \$100; or</u>				
212	(ii) the uniform fee provided for under Subsection (2)(a); and				
213	(c) an aircraft that does not have a valid airworthiness certificate for a period of six				

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214	months or more:					
215	(i) may not apply for a certificate of registration required under Section 72-10-109; and					
216	(ii) is exempt from paying a registration fee until the aircraft has a valid airworthiness					
217	certificate.					
218	(4) (a) The Tax Commission shall provide a registration card to an owner of an aircraft					
219	<u>if:</u>					
220	(i) the owner complies with the registration requirements of this section; and					
221	(ii) the owner of the aircraft states that the aircraft has a valid airworthiness certificate.					
222	(b) An owner of an aircraft shall carry the registration card in the registered aircraft.					
223	[(b)] (5) The registration fees assessed under this chapter shall be collected by the					
224	[county and remitted to the] Tax Commission to be distributed as provided in Subsection					
225	[(2)(c)] <u>(6)</u> .					
226	[(c)] (6) (a) After deducting the costs of administering all aircraft registrations under					
227	this chapter, the Tax Commission shall deposit all remaining aircraft registration fees in the					
228	Transportation Fund's Restricted Revenue Account for aeronautical operations of the					
229	Department of Transportation to be used as provided in Subsection 59-13-402(2).					
230	(b) All interest earned on monies in the Transportation Fund's Restricted Revenue					
231	Account shall be deposited into the Transportation Fund's Restricted Revenue Account for					
232	aeronautical operations.					
233	[(d)] (7) Aircraft which are registered under this chapter for less than a full calendar					
234	year shall be charged a registration fee which is reduced in proportion to the fraction of the					
235	calendar year during which the aircraft is registered in this state.					
236	(8) (a) The Utah Division of Aeronautics shall maintain a statewide database of all					
237	aircraft based within the state.					
238	(b) On or before October 1 of each year, the Utah Division of Aeronautics shall					
239	provide the Tax Commission with $\hat{H} \rightarrow [access to]$ the data the Tax Commission requires					
239a	from $\leftarrow \hat{H}$ the database described in Subsection (8)(a).					
240	(c) In accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the					
241	commission may by rule define the contents of the database described in Subsection (8)(a).					
242	(9) The Tax Commission may suspend or revoke a registration if it determines that the					
243	required fee has not been paid and the fee is not paid upon reasonable notice and demand.					
244	Section 4. Section 72-10-116 is amended to read:					

245	72-10-116. Airport license required Issuance by division Restrictions on use						
246	of lands or waters of another Annual fee.						
247	(1) For purposes of this section, aircraft based at the owner's airport means an aircraft						
248	which is hangared, tied down, or parked at an owner's airport for a plurality of the year.						
249	[(1)] (2) (a) An airport open to public use may not be used or operated unless it is duly						
250	licensed by the division.						
251	(b) [Any] A person who owns or operates an airport open to public use shall file an						
252	application with the division for a license for the facility.						
253	(c) Semi-annually, an owner or operator described in Subsection (2)(b) shall provide a						
254	list of all aircraft based at the owner's airport to the Utah Division of Aeronautics.						
255	[(2)] (a) A license shall be granted whenever it is reasonably necessary for the						
256	accommodation and convenience of the public and may be granted in other cases in the						
257	discretion of the division.						
258	(b) The division may not issue a license if the division finds that the facility is not						
259	constructed, equipped, and operated in accordance with the standards set by the department.						
260	[(3)] (4) (a) The landing or taking off of aircraft on or from the lands or waters of						
261	another without consent is unlawful, except in the case of a forced landing.						
262	(b) For damages caused by a takeoff or landing, the owner, lessee of the aircraft,						
263	operator, or any of them is liable.						
264	[(4)] (5) (a) A student pilot may not land on any area without the knowledge of the						
265	operator, instructor, or school from which the student is flying.						
266	(b) The use of private landing fields must not impose a hazard upon the person or						
267	property of others.						
268	[(5)] (6) A certificate of registration is not required of, and the rules made under this						
269	title do not apply to an airport owned or operated by the government of the United States.						
270	[(6)] (7) The division, with the approval of the commission, may charge a fee						
271	determined by the division pursuant to Section 63-38-3.2 for the issuance of an annual airport						
272	license.						
273	Section 5. Effective date.						
274	This bill takes effect on January 1, 2009.						
275	Section 6. Repealer.						

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276 This bill repeals:

277 Section **72-10-111**, **Registration of antique or experimental aircraft**.

Legislative Review Note as of 1-29-08 6:17 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

H.B. 365 - Aviation Amendments

Fiscal Note

2008 General Session State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill could increase the Aeronautics Restricted Account by \$501,000 in FY 2009 and by \$526,800 in FY 2010.

	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2008		F I 2010
	<u>Approp.</u>	Approp.	Approp.	Revenue	Revenue	Kevenue
Transportation Fund Restricted	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$501,000	\$526,800
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$501,000	\$526,800
-				_		

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Individuals registering aircraft in the State will see changes in the registrations fees and the fees in lieu of the ad valorem tax. The net result is a decrease in fee revenue for local governments. Local governments could see revenue losses estimated at about \$761,000 in FY 2009 and by \$785,000 in FY 2010.

2/6/2008, 5:51:59 PM, Lead Analyst: Wilko, A.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst