

By Representatives Turnbull and Valdes

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to air carriers; amending s.  
3           206.9825, F.S.; providing for a refund or  
4           credit for the aviation fuel tax for  
5           wholesalers or terminal suppliers that deliver  
6           aviation fuel to an air carrier that offers jet  
7           passenger service, or maintains or increases  
8           scheduled service, to the state capital;  
9           directing the Department of Management Services  
10          to evaluate the state contract for air carrier  
11          service for state employees, undertake a pilot  
12          program, and evaluate the pilot program;  
13          providing an effective date.

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15           WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Florida to  
16          attract and retain quality affordable air carrier service for  
17          its citizens, and

18           WHEREAS, dependable and affordable air service is an  
19          important factor in stimulating economic development and  
20          promoting efficient and accountable government service, and

21           WHEREAS, citizens require affordable and efficient  
22          access to state government and elected officials in the state  
23          capital to promote an open democracy, and

24           WHEREAS, safe and affordable air travel from the state  
25          capital to all parts of Florida is necessary to ensure the  
26          continued operation of state programs, and

27           WHEREAS, incentives need to be identified to attract  
28          and retain quality air service to the state capital from all  
29          major airports in Florida to meet the needs of government and  
30          industry, and

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1           WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the need to provide  
2 support to air carriers that provide this valuable service,  
3 NOW, THEREFORE,

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5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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7           Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of  
8 section 206.9825, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, are  
9 amended to read:

10           206.9825 Aviation fuel tax.--

11           (1)

12           (b)1. Any licensed wholesaler or terminal supplier  
13 that delivers aviation fuel to an air carrier offering  
14 transcontinental jet service and that, after January 1, 1996,  
15 increases the air carrier's Florida workforce by more than  
16 1000 percent and by 250 or more full-time equivalent employee  
17 positions, may receive a credit or refund as the ultimate  
18 vendor of the aviation fuel for the 6.9 cents excise tax  
19 previously paid, provided that the air carrier has no facility  
20 for fueling highway vehicles from the tank in which the  
21 aviation fuel is stored. In calculating the new or additional  
22 Florida full-time equivalent employee positions, any full-time  
23 equivalent employee positions of parent or subsidiary  
24 corporations which existed before January 1, 1996, shall not  
25 be counted toward reaching the Florida employment increase  
26 thresholds. The refund allowed under this subparagraph  
27 ~~paragraph~~ is in furtherance of the goals and policies of the  
28 State Comprehensive Plan set forth in s. 187.201(17)(a),  
29 (b)1., 2., (18)(a), (b)1., 4., (20)(a), (b)5., (22)(a), (b)1.,  
30 2., 4., 7., 9., and 12. This subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ will  
31 expire on July 1, 2001.

1           2. Any licensed wholesaler or terminal supplier that  
2 delivers aviation fuel to an air carrier that offers jet  
3 passenger service, or maintains or increases scheduled  
4 passenger service, to the state capital may receive a credit  
5 or refund as the ultimate vendor of the aviation fuel for the  
6 6.9 cents excise tax previously paid, provided that the air  
7 carrier has no facility for fueling highway vehicles from the  
8 tank in which the aviation fuel is stored. This refund or  
9 credit shall be applied only to fuel used for flight segments  
10 traveling in or out of the state capital.

11           (c) If, before July 1, 2001, the number of full-time  
12 equivalent employee positions created or added to the air  
13 carrier's Florida workforce falls below 250, the exemption  
14 granted pursuant to subparagraph (b)1.~~this section~~ shall not  
15 apply during the period in which the air carrier has fewer  
16 than the 250 additional employees.

17           Section 2. State air carrier contract.--Pursuant to s.  
18 287.042, Florida Statutes, the Department of Management  
19 Services shall analyze and evaluate the state contract for air  
20 carrier service for state employees to determine how to  
21 improve the quality, availability, and cost of air service to  
22 state employees and other citizens. The department shall  
23 undertake a pilot program based on this analysis that shall  
24 include, but is not limited to, the suspension or expansion of  
25 any such contract and the provision of any incentives  
26 necessary to attract qualified air carriers flying within  
27 Florida to the state capital. In implementing this pilot  
28 program, the department shall take into consideration the  
29 provisions of s. 112.061(7)(a)2., Florida Statutes. The  
30 department shall evaluate the impact of this pilot program on  
31 increased scheduled service, costs, fare structures, and

1 expanded jet service to and from the state capital, and be  
2 prepared to report annually to the Speaker of the House of  
3 Representatives and the President of the Senate.

4 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

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7 HOUSE SUMMARY

8 Provides for a refund or credit for the aviation fuel tax  
9 for wholesalers or terminal suppliers that deliver  
10 aviation fuel to an air carrier that offers jet passenger  
11 service, or maintains or increases scheduled service, to  
the state capital.

12 Directs the Department of Management Services to evaluate  
13 the state contract for air carrier service for state  
14 employees, undertake a pilot program based on its  
analysis, and evaluate the pilot program.

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