

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to air carriers; directing the  
3           Department of Management Services to evaluate  
4           the state contract for air carrier service for  
5           state employees, undertake a pilot program, and  
6           adopt purchasing guidelines; directing the  
7           Office of Program Policy Analysis and  
8           Government Accountability to review the impact  
9           of the pilot program and report to the  
10          Legislature; authorizing the department to  
11          reinstate certain contracts under certain  
12          circumstances; directing Enterprise Florida,  
13          Inc., to complete a review of the impact of  
14          regional airports on economic development in  
15          the State of Florida; providing an effective  
16          date.

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18           WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Florida to  
19          attract and retain quality affordable air carrier service for  
20          its citizens, and

21           WHEREAS, dependable and affordable air service is an  
22          important factor in stimulating economic development and  
23          promoting efficient and accountable government service, and

24           WHEREAS, citizens require affordable and efficient  
25          access to state government and elected officials in the state  
26          capital to promote an open democracy, and

27           WHEREAS, safe and affordable air travel from the state  
28          capital to all parts of Florida is necessary to ensure the  
29          continued operation of state programs, and

30           WHEREAS, incentives need to be identified to attract  
31          and retain quality air service to the state capital from all

1 major airports in Florida to meet the needs of government and  
2 industry, and

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

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

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9 Section 1. State air carrier contract.--Pursuant to s.  
10 287.042, Florida Statutes, the Department of Management  
11 Services shall analyze and evaluate the state contract for air  
12 carrier service for state employees to determine how to  
13 improve the quality, availability, and cost of air service to  
14 state employees and other citizens. The department shall  
15 undertake a pilot program for up to a 3-year period based on  
16 this analysis that shall include, but is not limited to, the  
17 suspension of any such contract and the provision of any  
18 incentives necessary to attract qualified air carriers flying  
19 within Florida to and from the state capital. In lieu of the  
20 provisions of s. 112.061(7)(a)2., Florida Statutes, and  
21 notwithstanding s. 287.042(2), Florida Statutes, or any law or  
22 rule to the contrary, in implementing this pilot program the  
23 Department of Management Services, in consultation with the  
24 Department of Banking and Finance, shall adopt guidelines for  
25 good purchasing practices in acquiring air carrier services to  
26 and from the state capital. The Office of Program Policy  
27 Analysis and Government Accountability shall review the  
28 effects and fiscal impact of the pilot program. The report  
29 shall include, but not be limited to, information on and  
30 analyses of additional costs incurred and savings realized by  
31 state agencies, including per diem, subsistence, productivity

1 and time of the travelers, and cost of airfare. If, within 6  
2 months after implementing such pilot program, the office  
3 determines that the travel costs to state government have  
4 increased by at least 20 percent, the department may reinstate  
5 any portion of the state contract. The office shall provide  
6 the Legislature with a preliminary report prior to the 1999  
7 Regular Session, and annually thereafter prior to each regular  
8 session during the existence of the pilot program.

9           Section 2. Review of impact of regional  
10 airports.--Enterprise Florida, Inc., is directed to undertake  
11 and complete a review on the impact of regional airports on  
12 economic development in the State of Florida. The review  
13 shall contain, but is not limited to, findings on the impact  
14 of regional airports on the following: regional and local  
15 economies; regional and local economic development efforts;  
16 and new and expanding manufacturing facilities. A report,  
17 including the results of this review, shall be transmitted to  
18 the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House no later  
19 than February 1, 1999.

20           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1 of the  
21 year in which enacted.  
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