

By Senator Mitchell

4-1589-99

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to aeronautics; creating the
3 Commission on the Future of Aeronautics and
4 Space in Florida; providing for qualifications
5 and appointment of members; directing the
6 commission to study and make recommendations
7 regarding specified areas relating to
8 aeronautics and aerospace in the state;
9 requiring reports; providing for termination of
10 the commission; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Commission on the Future of Aeronautics and
15 Space in Florida.--

16 (1) The Legislature finds that the aviation and
17 aerospace industries comprise an important segment of
18 Florida's economy. These industries have been developing
19 rapidly and stand on the brink of exciting new challenges.
20 Florida has the abundant resources to help these industries
21 meet these challenges and to establish itself as a prime
22 location for aviation and aerospace industries. However,
23 effective action must be based on a reliable assessment of the
24 present regulatory climate for such industries in the state.
25 Further, the various options available for legislative action
26 should be carefully considered.

27 (2) There is created the Commission on the Future of
28 Aeronautics and Space in Florida. The commission shall be
29 composed of the following 11 members:

30 (a) The chairs of the Transportation Committees of the
31 House of Representatives and the Senate.

1 (b) A representative of the Aviation Office of the
2 Department of Transportation appointed by the Secretary of
3 Transportation.

4 (c) A representative of the Spaceport Florida
5 Authority appointed by the board of supervisors of the
6 authority.

7 (d) Three members appointed by the Governor.

8 (e) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House
9 of Representatives.

10 (f) Two members appointed by the President of the
11 Senate.

12 (3) The members appointed pursuant to paragraphs
13 (2)(d), (e), and (f) shall be selected to equitably represent
14 knowledge of and experience in the following areas:
15 commercial aviation; management of public airports; aviation
16 manufacturing; aviation operations and maintenance; aerospace
17 manufacturing; aerospace operations and maintenance; and
18 aeronautics-related education.

19 (4) The members of the commission shall be appointed
20 no later than 30 days after the effective date of this act.
21 The commission shall serve until adjournment sine die of the
22 2000 Regular Session of the Legislature. Vacancies on the
23 commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
24 appointment.

25 (5) Upon appointment of its members, the commission
26 shall meet to organize and select a chair and vice chair.
27 Meetings shall be held upon the call of the chair, but not
28 less frequently than quarterly.

29 (6) The commission may employ an executive director,
30 who shall be chosen with due regard to his or her aeronautical

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1 knowledge and practical experience in the fields of
2 aeronautics and aerospace.

3 (7) The members of the commission shall serve without
4 compensation but shall be reimbursed for per diem and travel
5 expenses as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. The
6 Department of Transportation shall provide administrative and
7 staff support for the commission.

8 (8) The commission shall:

9 (a) Survey current state and local laws, ordinances,
10 and rules that affect the development and regulation of the
11 aviation and aerospace industries in Florida and recommend
12 ways in which these regulations can be streamlined and revised
13 to operate more efficiently. The commission should also
14 consider whether regulation and oversight in the fields of
15 aviation and aerospace should be centralized under one
16 governmental agency.

17 (b) Examine the means by which aviation and aerospace
18 industries, including the component elements of manufacturing,
19 assembly, marketing, servicing, maintenance, logistical
20 support, human resources, and related research and
21 development, can be attracted to locate permanently in the
22 state, and recommend actions that can be taken by state and
23 local governments to accomplish this goal.

24 (c) Evaluate the availability of commercial air
25 services in Florida, identify underserved locations, and
26 recommend actions that can be taken to improve the
27 availability, efficiency, and economy of commercial air
28 services.

29 (d) Identify the advances that can be expected in the
30 future in aeronautics and aerospace operations, air transport,
31 and other aeronautical areas and make recommendations

1 regarding how the state can anticipate, encourage, and
2 accommodate such advances.

3 (e) Identify aid that is available at the federal
4 level to assist in efforts to improve Florida's aeronautical
5 and aerospace competitive position, and recommend ways in
6 which the state may be most effective in obtaining that aid.

7 (f) Examine the role of Florida's elementary,
8 secondary, and postsecondary schools in producing a highly
9 qualified work force that will meet the needs of the aviation
10 and aerospace industries, and recommend curricula in
11 mathematics, science, and technology that will accomplish this
12 goal.

13 (9) The commission shall prepare a preliminary report
14 of its findings and recommendations by December 1, 1999, and a
15 final report by January 15, 2000. Copies of the reports shall
16 be submitted to the Governor; the Speaker and the Minority
17 Leader of the House of Representatives; and the President and
18 the Minority Leader of the Senate. After submission of the
19 final report, members of the commission may, with the approval
20 of the chair, receive reimbursement pursuant to subsection (7)
21 for travel necessary to consult with the Legislature
22 concerning issues raised by, and implementation of, the final
23 report, until termination of the commission.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
25 law.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Creates the Commission on the Future of Aeronautics and Space in Florida to study and make recommendations to the Legislature regarding ways in which Florida can establish itself as a prime location for aviation and aerospace industries. Requires reports prior to the 2000 Regular Session.