

By Representative Turnbull

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. Yet, there exists intense nationwide
19 competition for future development of these industries.
20 Florida has the resources to help these industries meet the
21 challenges and opportunities of competition and to establish
22 itself as a prime location for aviation and aerospace
23 industries, thus creating a prime environment for economic
24 development and employment opportunities. However, effective
25 action and the necessary coordination of resources must be
26 based on a reliable assessment of the present climate for such
27 industries in the state. Further, the various options
28 available for legislative action should be carefully
29 considered.

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

4 (a) The chairs of the Transportation Committees of the
5 House of Representatives and the Senate.

6 (b) A representative of the Aviation Office of the
7 Department of Transportation appointed by the Secretary of
8 Transportation.

9 (c) A representative of the Spaceport Florida
10 Authority appointed by the board of supervisors of the
11 authority.

12 (d) Three members appointed by the Governor.

13 (e) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House
14 of Representatives.

15 (f) Two members appointed by the President of the
16 Senate.

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

24 (4) The members of the commission shall be appointed
25 no later than 30 days after the effective date of this act.
26 The commission shall serve until adjournment sine die of the
27 2000 Regular Session of the Legislature. Vacancies on the
28 commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original
29 appointment.

30 (5) Upon appointment of its members, the commission
31 shall meet to organize and select a chair and vice chair.

1 Meetings shall be held upon the call of the chair, but not
2 less frequently than quarterly.

3 (6) The commission may employ an executive director,
4 who shall be chosen with due regard to his or her aeronautical
5 knowledge and practical experience in the fields of
6 aeronautics and aerospace.

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

12 (8) The commission shall:

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

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

27 (c) Review existing studies to evaluate the
28 availability of commercial air services in Florida, identify
29 underserved locations, and recommend actions that can be taken
30 to improve the availability, efficiency, and economy of
31 commercial air services.

1 (d) Identify the advances that can be expected in the
2 future in aeronautics and aerospace operations, air transport,
3 and other aeronautical areas and make recommendations
4 regarding how the state can anticipate, encourage, and
5 accommodate such advances.

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

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

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

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
27 law.

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HOUSE 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.