

By Representatives Alexander, Goodlette, Bense, Attkisson,  
Brummer, Baker, Barreiro, Stansel and Waters

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the excise tax on aviation  
3           fuel; abating the tax imposed by s.  
4           206.9825(1)(a), F.S., for a specified period;  
5           creating the Legislative Aviation Fuel Tax  
6           Accountability Panel; specifying membership;  
7           providing for meetings; providing intent;  
8           specifying duties of the panel; providing for a  
9           report and recommendations; providing for  
10          expiration of the panel; providing an effective  
11          date.

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

14  
15           Section 1. Notwithstanding section 206.9825(1)(a),  
16 Florida Statutes, the excise tax on aviation fuel is abated  
17 until June 30, 2003.

18           Section 2. (1) There is created the Legislative  
19 Aviation Fuel Tax Accountability Panel, consisting of seven  
20 members appointed as follows:

21           (a) Three members of the Senate appointed by the  
22 President of the Senate, one of whom is designated in the  
23 appointment as the Senate co-chair;

24           (b) Three members of the House of Representatives  
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one  
26 of whom is designated in the appointment as House co-chair;  
27 and

28           (c) The Lieutenant Governor or the Lieutenant  
29 Governor's designee.

30           (2) The panel shall be chaired jointly by the  
31 designate co-chairs and shall meet at the call of either

1 co-chair. Meetings shall be noticed in the same manner as  
2 meetings of joint legislative committees.

3 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide an  
4 incentive for airlines to increase the number or capacity of  
5 flights in Florida and to hold the airlines accountable.  
6 Therefore, the purpose of the accountability panel is to  
7 determine the extent to which airlines have, in fact,  
8 increased the number or capacity of flights in Florida in  
9 response to this incentive. It is the further intent of this  
10 act that the Legislature should allow this incentive to remain  
11 in place for the full period referred to in section 1 of this  
12 act if the panel's accountability standards are met. The  
13 accountability panel shall:

14 (a) Establish objective standards for determining  
15 whether the expected increases in the number or capacity of  
16 flights in Florida have in fact occurred, using October 15,  
17 2001, as the baseline.

18 (b) Obtain such information from governmental and  
19 private sector sources as is necessary to determine whether  
20 the standards referred to in paragraph (a) have been met.

21 (c) No later than January 15, 2002, provide to the  
22 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives a report describing the accountability  
24 standards and detailing the extent to which progress toward  
25 those standards has been achieved. If the panel determines  
26 that satisfactory progress has been achieved, the panel's  
27 report shall also include a recommendation that the abatement  
28 of the excise tax on aviation fuel be allowed to remain in  
29 place for the full period referred to in section 1 of this  
30 act. If the panel determines that the abatement should remain  
31 in place as provided in section 1 of this act, the panel shall

1 continue to monitor the progress and consider and recommend at  
2 what rate the excise tax on aviation fuel should be reinstated  
3 subsequent to June 30, 2003.

4 (d) The panel shall expire upon the adjournment sine  
5 die of the 2003 Regular Session of the Legislature.

6 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
7 law.

8  
9 \*\*\*\*\*

10 HOUSE SUMMARY

11 Abates the excise tax on aviation fuel imposed by s.  
12 206.9825(1)(a), F.S., until June 30, 2003. Creates the  
13 Legislative Aviation Fuel Tax Accountability Panel to  
14 monitor and report to the Legislature on the impact of  
15 such abatement and to include in such report  
16 recommendations on the continuation of the abatement for  
the duration of such period and the rate at which the tax  
should be reinstated. Provides for expiration of the  
panel upon adjournment sine die of the 2003 Regular  
Session of the Legislature.

17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31