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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to charter travel to terrorist states; creating s. 288.857, F.S.; creating the "Commerce With Terrorist States Act"; providing a popular name; providing legislative intent; providing definitions; providing for the levy of a security assessment on charter transportation for trips originating in this state and arriving in an identified terrorist state; providing for the rate of the assessment; providing requirements and procedures with respect thereto; requiring any university or community college within the State University System or the Florida Community College System that organizes or directs the organization of a cultural or educational trip utilizing charter transportation to any terrorist state to provide the Department of Education with specified information; specifying exemptions to the act; providing for the adoption of rules; providing for the adoption of emergency rules; providing that emergency rules shall remain in effect for a specified period; providing severability; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 288.857, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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288.857 Security assessment for chartered transportation to terrorist states.--

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(1) POPULAR NAME. -- This act may be known by the popular name the "Commerce with Terrorist States Act."

- (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--The Legislature finds that there are increased safety concerns associated with transportation between this state and terrorist states and that travel to terrorist states raises issues related to security and to the prevention of and response to possible terrorist acts. The Legislature further finds that persons or entities who transport persons to terrorist states may directly impact the economic stability and public security of this state. Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to offset costs related to transportation to terrorist states that originates in this state. It is not the intent of the Legislature to impact the official business of government employees or the duties of any personnel of the United States Armed Services.
 - (3) DEFINITIONS. -- As used in this section:
- (a) "Terrorist state" means any state, country, or nation presently deemed a state sponsor of terrorism by the United States Department of State. For the purposes of this act, the Department of Revenue shall be charged with the duty of documenting those states or nations identified as state sponsors of terrorism by the United States Department of State, shall specify in rule those states or nations deemed state sponsors of terrorism by the United States Department of State, and shall annually update the list of states or nations designated as state sponsors of terrorism according to the most current list of state sponsors of terrorism compiled by the United States Department of States

(b) "Assessable transaction or incident" means payment by a passenger for travel on a charter vessel.

- (c) "Charter aircraft" means any form of aircraft hired for exclusive temporary use by a single traveler or group of travelers.
- (d) "Charter transportation" means travel via charter aircraft or charter vessel when such aircraft or vessel is hired for exclusive temporary use by a single traveler or group of travelers.
- (e) "Charter vessel" means any form of watercraft hired for exclusive temporary use by a single traveler or group of travelers.
- (f) "Directly carries or transports" means to conduct a single continuous charter flight or charter vessel voyage that originates from any location in this state and arrives in a terrorist state identified pursuant to paragraph (a). For purposes of this definition, temporary stops of less than 8 hours shall not disqualify a charter flight or charter vessel voyage from being considered a continuous flight or voyage.
 - (4) SECURITY ASSESSMENT.-

- (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that every person or entity who directly transports persons via charter aircraft or charter vessel from this state to a terrorist state is exercising an assessable privilege.
- (b)1. For exercising such privilege, a security assessment is levied on charter aircraft on each takeoff at the rate of \$100, irrespective of the charter aircraft size, plus an additional charge of \$0.04 per pound of the aircraft's maximum

takeoff weight as specified by the aircraft manufacturer. Each such charter company is charged with the responsibility of keeping adequate books and records that will establish chartered flights and destinations.

- 2. For charter vessels exercising such privilege, a security assessment is levied on each assessable transaction or incident, which assessment is due and payable at the rate of 10 percent on the total consideration received or to be received by any person for performing such service. Such security assessment shall be in addition to the total amount of the consideration for the service, shall be charged by the person receiving such consideration, and shall be payable by such person at the time he or she receives such consideration.
- (c) Such person who or entity that directly transports persons via charter aircraft or vessel from this state to a terrorist state shall remit the assessment to the Department of Revenue in a manner prescribed by the department. The proceeds of the security assessment, less administrative costs, shall be transferred by the Department of Revenue into the State Homeland Security Trust Fund. For the purposes of this section, "proceeds of the security assessment" means all funds collected and received by the department hereunder, including interest and penalties on delinquent assessments. The amount deducted for the costs of administration must not exceed 3 percent of the total revenues collected hereunder and may include only those costs reasonably attributable to the assessment.
- (d) This security assessment is in addition to other taxes or assessments, whether levied in the form of excise, license,

or privilege taxes, and is in addition to all other fees and taxes levied.

- (e) The Department of Revenue shall administer, collect, and enforce the security assessment authorized under this section pursuant to the same procedures used in the administration, collection, and enforcement of the general state sales tax imposed under chapter 212, except as provided in this section. The provisions of chapter 212 regarding the authority to audit and make assessments, keeping of books and records, and interest and penalties on delinquent fees apply. The assessment shall not be included in the computation of estimated taxes pursuant to s. 212.11, nor shall the dealer's credit for collecting taxes or fees in s. 212.12 apply to this assessment.
- (5) MANDATORY TRAVEL INFORMATION. -- Any university or community college within the State University System or the Florida Community College System that organizes or directs the organization of a cultural or educational trip utilizing charter transportation to any terrorist state shall provide the Department of Education, no later than 30 days prior to the commencement of such trip, the following information:
- (a) A passenger list of individuals participating in the trip, including the name and address of each individual and the enrollment or employment status of each individual in the applicable state university or community college.
- (b) A detailed itinerary of the trip being organized, including hotel and restaurant accommodations, planned excursions, and scheduled meetings with governmental authorities

or individuals or organizations not affiliated with the government of the host nation.

- (c) A complete accounting of all costs associated with the trip and a complete accounting of the use or deposit of all moneys received in payment for the trip.
- (d) The certificates of incorporation of any entity or entities contracted to organize or facilitate the trip or the names and other pertinent identifying information with respect to any third party entity or entities being contracted to organize or facilitate the trip.
- (6) EXEMPTIONS.--The provisions of this act shall not apply to:
- (a) Any person operating by contract with a federal authority or an authority of the State of Florida.
 - (b) Any person in performance of active military duty.
- (c) Any person employed with the Federal Government in the performance of his or her official duties.
- (7) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.--The Department of Education and the Department of Revenue may adopt rules necessary to administer this section. The Executive Director of the Department of Revenue is authorized, and all conditions are deemed met, to adopt emergency rules under ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54(4) to implement this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, such emergency rules shall remain in effect for 6 months after the date of adoption and may be renewed during the pendency of procedures to adopt rules addressing the subject of the emergency rules.

166	Section 2. If any provision of this act or its application
167	to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity
168	does not affect other provisions or applications of the act
169	which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
170	application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
171	severable.
172	Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2005.