HB 445 2007

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the tax on sales, use, and other transactions; amending s. 212.08, F.S.; exempting certain aircraft, related construction, maintenance, repair, and overhaul parts and labor, and fractional aircraft ownership interests; providing a definition; amending s. 212.0801, F.S.; applying certain university flight training and research program participation requirements to exemptions for fractional aircraft ownership programs; providing an effective date.

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WHEREAS, Florida has identified aviation and aerospace as a targeted industry for economic development purposes, and

WHEREAS, Florida has determined that the synergy in the space, aerospace, and aviation industry attracts the world's leading businesses to this state, and

WHEREAS, Florida employs approximately 80,000 people in the aviation and aerospace industry at an average annual wage of approximately \$52,000, and

WHEREAS, Florida has the third largest aviation maintenance, repair, and overhaul cluster in the United States and has focused strategies for expanding these aviation support services, and

WHEREAS, Florida intends to remain competitive with other states as additional innovative commercial air transportation products are developed, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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Section 1. Subsection (19) is added to section 212.08, Florida Statutes, to read:

212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.--The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.

- (19) EXEMPTIONS; FRACTIONAL AIRCRAFT OWNERSHIP.--
- (a) Also exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter is the sale or use of:
- 1. Aircraft for primary use in a fractional aircraft ownership program.
- 2. Any parts or labor used in the completion, maintenance, repair, or overhaul of aircraft for primary use in a fractional aircraft ownership program.
- 3. A fractional ownership interest in aircraft pursuant to a fractional aircraft ownership program, including amounts paid by the fractional owner as monthly management or maintenance fees.
- (b) For purposes of this subsection, the term "fractional aircraft ownership program" means a program that:
- 1. Is provided by a business or affiliated group that has at least 25 turbojet or turboprop aircraft, regardless of the maximum certified takeoff weight of the aircraft.
 - 2. Provides significant management services.
 - 3. Requires one or more fractional owners per aircraft,

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with at least one aircraft having more than one owner, each owner having at least a one-sixteenth interest.

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- 4. Has dry-lease intercharge arrangements in effect among all the owners.
- 5. Has multiyear program arrangements in effect as to all of the components of the program described in subparagraphs 1.-4.
- Section 2. Section 212.0801, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.0801 Qualified aircraft exemption; fractional aircraft ownership program exemption .-- To be eligible to receive an exemption under s. 212.08(7) or (19) for a qualified aircraft, a purchaser or lessee must offer, in writing, to participate in a flight training and research program with two or more universities based in this state which offer graduate programs in aeronautical or aerospace engineering and offer flight training through a school of aeronautics or college of aviation. The purchaser or lessee shall forward a copy of the written offer to the Department of Revenue. No exemption provided in this chapter for the lease, purchase, repair, or maintenance of an a qualified aircraft shall be allowed unless the purchaser or lessee furnishes the dealer with a certificate stating that the lease, purchase, repair, or maintenance to be exempted is for the exclusive use of the purchaser or lessee of an a qualified aircraft and that the purchaser or lessee otherwise qualifies for the exemption as provided in this section. If a purchaser or lessee makes tax-exempt purchases of qualified aircraft or leases an a qualified aircraft on a continual basis, the

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purchaser or lessee may tender the certificate once and allow the dealer to keep a certificate on file. The purchaser or lessee shall inform the dealer that has a certificate on file when the purchaser or lessee no longer qualifies for the exemption. The department shall determine the format of the certificate. This section applies only to qualified aircraft and aircraft, parts and labor for aircraft repair and maintenance, and ownership interests in aircraft used primarily in a fractional aircraft ownership program.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.