

By Senator Wright

14-00590A-22

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to aerospace commerce; creating s.  
3           315.032, F.S.; exempting certain spaceport users from  
4           certain fees or charges while transporting a space  
5           vehicle or certain equipment; providing for expiration  
6           of the exemption; amending s. 331.303, F.S.; defining  
7           the term "space vehicle"; creating s. 331.3545, F.S.;  
8           providing a short title; creating the Zero G, Zero Fee  
9           program for the purpose of granting certain tax  
10          exemptions to spaceport users; requiring Space Florida  
11          to adopt rules determining application and eligibility  
12          requirements; exempting spaceflight vehicles and  
13          certain components from any state tax or fee;  
14          providing for expiration; amending s. 338.155, F.S.;  
15          exempting certain spaceport users from payment of  
16          tolls on toll facilities while transporting a space  
17          vehicle or certain equipment; providing for expiration  
18          of the exemption; requiring the Secretary of Business  
19          and Professional Regulation to recommend to the  
20          Executive Office of the Governor the repeal of certain  
21          rules; requiring a report to the Governor,  
22          Legislature, and board of directors of Space Florida  
23          by a specified date; providing an effective date.

24  
25   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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27           Section 1. Section 315.032, Florida Statutes, is created to  
28   read:

29           315.032 Zero G, Zero Fee program; exemption from certain

14-00590A-22

20221466\_\_

30 fees and charges.—A spaceport user approved for the Zero G, Zero  
31 Fee program pursuant to s. 331.3545 is exempt from any fees or  
32 charges authorized under s. 315.03(14) that apply to cargo while  
33 transporting a space vehicle as defined in s. 331.303, launch  
34 equipment, or recovery equipment. This section expires December  
35 31, 2027.

36 Section 2. Present subsections (20) and (21) of section  
37 331.303, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (21)  
38 and (22), respectively, and a new subsection (20) is added to  
39 that section, to read:

40 331.303 Definitions.—

41 (20) "Space vehicle" means a system used to transport  
42 persons and payloads from a spaceport territory to a destination  
43 at or beyond 62 miles above sea level.

44 Section 3. Section 331.3545, Florida Statutes, is created  
45 to read:

46 331.3545 Tax exemption; certain aerospace materials and  
47 consumables.—

48 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Zero G,  
49 Zero Fee Act."

50 (2) CREATION.—The Zero G, Zero Fee program is created for  
51 the purpose of granting tax exemptions for the sale, rental,  
52 storage, use, or consumption of certain aerospace materials and  
53 consumables by spaceport users as defined in s. 331.303.

54 (3) APPLICATION; ELIGIBILITY.—Space Florida shall, by rule:

55 (a) Determine spaceport user eligibility criteria for the  
56 Zero G, Zero Fee program and create the program application  
57 process.

58 (b) Create a list of materials and consumables qualified

14-00590A-22

20221466\_\_

59 for the program, including, but not limited to:

60 1. Materials and consumables used for the construction of  
61 space vehicles, launch pads, landing pads, and space vehicle  
62 recovery assets.

63 2. Materials and consumables used for the construction of  
64 payloads, space stations, and extravehicular equipment.

65 3. Vehicle propellant and other chemicals and gases  
66 necessary for construction, launch, recovery, and reusability of  
67 space vehicles.

68 (4) EXEMPTION FROM STATE TAXES OR FEES.—Notwithstanding any  
69 other law, a spaceflight vehicle, or any component of a  
70 spaceflight vehicle used for the ascent, descent, or landing of  
71 the spaceflight vehicle on the land or territorial waters of  
72 this state, is exempt from any state tax or fee.

73 (5) EXPIRATION.—This section expires December 31, 2027.

74 Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
75 338.155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

76 338.155 Payment of toll on toll facilities required;  
77 exemptions.—

78 (1) (a) A person may not use a toll facility without payment  
79 of tolls, except:

80 1. An employee of the agency operating the toll project  
81 when using the toll facility on official state business.

82 2. State military personnel while on official military  
83 business.

84 3. A person with a disability as provided in subsection  
85 (3).

86 4. A person exempt from toll payment by the authorizing  
87 resolution for bonds issued to finance the facility.

14-00590A-22

20221466\_\_

88           5. A person exempt on a temporary basis where use of such  
89 toll facility is required as a detour route.

90           6. A law enforcement officer operating an official vehicle  
91 while on official law enforcement business.

92           7. A person operating a fire vehicle while on official  
93 business or a rescue vehicle while on official business.

94           8. A person participating in the funeral procession of a  
95 law enforcement officer or firefighter killed in the line of  
96 duty.

97           9. A spaceport user approved for the Zero G, Zero Fee  
98 program pursuant to s. 331.3545 while transporting a space  
99 vehicle as defined in s. 331.303, launch equipment, or recovery  
100 equipment. This subparagraph expires December 31, 2027.

101           Section 5. The Secretary of Business and Professional  
102 Regulation shall review current rules of the Department of  
103 Business and Professional Regulation and shall recommend to the  
104 Executive Office of the Governor the repeal of rules that he or  
105 she determines are detrimental to the commercial aerospace  
106 industry. The secretary shall submit a report of his or her  
107 findings to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the  
108 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the board of  
109 directors of Space Florida no later than December 31, 2022.

110           Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.