



December 21, 2017

Dear Mr. Sewell
Alaska DOT & PF
P.O. Box 196900
Anchorage, AK 99519

via email: StatewideAviation@alaska.gov

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce (GFCC) submits the following as public comment in response to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities' proposal to adopt regulations to implement Aircraft Registration in Alaska.

We respectfully recognize the Department's many efforts in making headway to close the revenue – cost gap currently experienced by both the State government and the Department of Transportation. However, the GFCC feels that the relative merit of the Aircraft Registration fee when compared to other options under discussion does not warrant its implementation at this time. Imposing a fee that provides only minimal economic relief will be a potential barrier to the ongoing discussions about other revenue options that are likely to provide “more bang for the buck”, and the ability to make additional headway on those fronts may be reduced or eliminated.

We request that you hold this action in abeyance and continue to focus the Department's efforts to other options that will have a greater impact on closing the budget gap.

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 businesses throughout Interior Alaska. The success of our members is directly linked to their ability to do business in an environment that has the necessary infrastructure to support and promote economic development. We write to you out of concern over the potentially detrimental impacts of imposing the Aircraft Registration fee at this time.

Sincerely,

Marisa Sharrah
President & CEO
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

Garry Hutchison
Board Chair
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Alaska Legislature
Commissioner Marc Luiken, Alaska DOT & PF

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Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital & Denali Center
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Gene's Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge
Golden Valley Electric Association
Hale & Associates, Inc.
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Key Bank
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Northrim Bank
PDC Inc. Engineers
Personnel Plus
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Sourdough Fuel
Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union
State Farm Insurance
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TDL Staffing
Teamsters Local 959
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Verizon Wireless
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