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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5989**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**1999 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Morton and Rasmussen)

Read first time 03/08/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to aircraft registration fees and taxes; and  
2 amending RCW 47.68.250 and 82.48.100.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.68.250 and 1998 c 188 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Every aircraft shall be registered with the department for each  
7 calendar year in which the aircraft is operated or is based within this  
8 state. A fee of (~~four~~) eight dollars shall be charged for each such  
9 registration and each annual renewal thereof.

10 Possession of the appropriate effective federal certificate,  
11 permit, rating, or license relating to ownership and airworthiness of  
12 the aircraft, and payment of the excise tax imposed by Title 82 RCW for  
13 the privilege of using the aircraft within this state during the year  
14 for which the registration is sought, and payment of the registration  
15 fee required by this section shall be the only requisites for  
16 registration of an aircraft under this section.

17 The registration fee imposed by this section shall be payable to  
18 and collected by the secretary. The fee for any calendar year must be  
19 paid during the month of January, and shall be collected by the

1 secretary at the time of the collection by him or her of the said  
2 excise tax. If the secretary is satisfied that the requirements for  
3 registration of the aircraft have been met, he or she shall thereupon  
4 issue to the owner of the aircraft a certificate of registration  
5 therefor. The secretary shall pay to the state treasurer the  
6 registration fees collected under this section, which registration fees  
7 shall be credited to the aeronautics account in the transportation  
8 fund.

9 It shall not be necessary for the registrant to provide the  
10 secretary with originals or copies of federal certificates, permits,  
11 ratings, or licenses. The secretary shall issue certificates of  
12 registration, or such other evidences of registration or payment of  
13 fees as he or she may deem proper; and in connection therewith may  
14 prescribe requirements for the possession and exhibition of such  
15 certificates or other evidences.

16 The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

17 (1) An aircraft owned by and used exclusively in the service of any  
18 government or any political subdivision thereof, including the  
19 government of the United States, any state, territory, or possession of  
20 the United States, or the District of Columbia, which is not engaged in  
21 carrying persons or property for commercial purposes;

22 (2) An aircraft registered under the laws of a foreign country;

23 (3) An aircraft which is owned by a nonresident and registered in  
24 another state: PROVIDED, That if said aircraft shall remain in and/or  
25 be based in this state for a period of ninety days or longer it shall  
26 not be exempt under this section;

27 (4) An aircraft engaged principally in commercial flying  
28 constituting an act of interstate or foreign commerce;

29 (5) An aircraft owned by the commercial manufacturer thereof while  
30 being operated for test or experimental purposes, or for the purpose of  
31 training crews for purchasers of the aircraft;

32 (6) An aircraft being held for sale, exchange, delivery, test, or  
33 demonstration purposes solely as stock in trade of an aircraft dealer  
34 licensed under Title 14 RCW;

35 (7) An aircraft based within the state that is in an unairworthy  
36 condition, is not operated within the registration period, and has  
37 obtained a written exemption issued by the secretary.

38 The secretary shall be notified within one week of any change in  
39 ownership of a registered aircraft. The notification shall contain the

1 N, NC, NR, NL, or NX number of the aircraft, the full name and address  
2 of the former owner, and the full name and address of the new owner.  
3 For failure to so notify the secretary, the registration of that  
4 aircraft may be canceled by the secretary, subject to reinstatement  
5 upon application and payment of a reinstatement fee of ten dollars by  
6 the new owner.

7 A municipality or port district that owns, operates, or leases an  
8 airport, as defined in RCW 47.68.020, with the intent to operate, shall  
9 require from an aircraft owner proof of aircraft registration or proof  
10 of intent to register an aircraft as a condition of leasing or selling  
11 tiedown or hangar space for an aircraft. The airport shall inform the  
12 lessee or purchaser of the tiedown or hangar space of the state law  
13 requiring registration and direct the person to comply with the state  
14 law if the person has not already done so. The airport may lease or  
15 sell tiedown or hangar space to owners of nonregistered aircraft after  
16 presenting them with the appropriate state registration forms. It is  
17 then the responsibility of the lessee or purchaser to register the  
18 aircraft. The airport shall report to the department's aviation  
19 division at the end of each month, the names, addresses, and "N"  
20 numbers of those aircraft owners not yet registered.

21 **Sec. 2.** RCW 82.48.100 and 1965 ex.s. c 173 s 28 are each amended  
22 to read as follows:

23 This chapter shall not apply to:

24 Aircraft owned by and used exclusively in the service of any  
25 government or any political subdivision thereof, including the  
26 government of the United States, any state, territory, or possession of  
27 the United States, or the District of Columbia, which are not engaged  
28 in carrying persons or property for commercial purposes;

29 Aircraft registered under the laws of a foreign country;

30 Aircraft which are owned by a nonresident and registered in another  
31 state: PROVIDED, That if any such aircraft shall remain in and/or be  
32 based in this state for a period of ninety days or longer it shall not  
33 be exempt under this section;

34 Aircraft engaged principally in commercial flying which constitutes  
35 interstate or foreign commerce; and aircraft owned by the manufacturer  
36 thereof while being operated for test or experimental purposes, or for  
37 the purpose of training crews for purchasers of the aircraft;

1 Aircraft being held for sale, exchange, delivery, test, or  
2 demonstration purposes solely as stock in trade of an aircraft dealer  
3 licensed under Title 14 RCW;

4 Aircraft owned by a nonresident of this state if the aircraft is  
5 kept at an airport in this state and that airport is jointly owned or  
6 operated by a municipal corporation or other governmental entity of  
7 this state and a municipal corporation or other governmental entity of  
8 another state, and the owner or operator of the aircraft provides the  
9 department with proof that the owner or operator has paid all taxes,  
10 license fees, and registration fees required by the state in which the  
11 owner or operator resides.

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