

HB 2784 with HCA 1 -- AIRCRAFT TAXATION

SPONSOR: Pike

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 9 to 1.

This bill increases the number of hours of operation per year a noncommercial aircraft at least 25 years old can fly from less than 50 hours to less than 250 hours to be assessed and valued at 5% of the aircraft's true value in money for property tax purposes. The bill changes the definition of "commercial aircraft" from a maximum certified gross take-off weight of more than 3,000 pounds to more than 12,500 pounds and adds that a commercial aircraft is used by a company or individual to transport passengers or cargo for compensation or hire.

HCA 1: This amendment removes the change in the definition of "commercial aircraft."

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will encourage people to get into aviation by making flying more affordable and reducing the tax burden on ownership.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pike; Yasmina Platt, Aircraft Owners And Pilots Association; Robert Quina, National Business Aviation Association; Loren Hunt; and Scott Buenge.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.