

SENATE BILL NO. 340—SENATOR AMODEI

MARCH 24, 2005

Referred to Committee on Finance

SUMMARY—Directs Legislative Commission to conduct interim study of funding sources for Fund for Aviation and makes appropriation. (BDR S-1133)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets **[omitted material]** is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to state financial administration; directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study to identify funding sources for the Fund for Aviation; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

WHEREAS, During the 71st Legislative Session, the Fund for Aviation was created as a Trust Fund in the State Treasury by NRS 494.048, but no means for funding the program was included; and

WHEREAS, Each year for every nickel in local matching funds, the Federal Aviation Administration provides 95 cents in federal money; and

WHEREAS, Last year the Federal Government's apportionment for Nevada was \$5,699,611 and a portion of this money went unclaimed by rural airports because they lacked matching money; and

WHEREAS, In rural Nevada, emergency medical flight operations are crucial, yet under existing conditions, emergency aircraft are not able to land at many rural airports and therefore cannot transport critically ill or injured patients to hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Although aviation plays an important role in this State for transportation, medical emergency flights, cargo operations and economic development, the State of Nevada is the only state in



1 the country that has no funding assistance for aviation-related
2 projects; now, therefore,

3
4 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
5 SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:
6

7 **Section 1.** 1. The Legislative Commission shall appoint a
8 committee to conduct an interim study to identify funding sources
9 for the Fund for Aviation, including, but not limited to, aviation fuel
10 taxes, airline ticket taxes, cargo taxes, international passenger taxes,
11 tie-down fees, hangar fees and fees for mechanical services.

12 2. The study must also include a summary of the needs of rural
13 airports, including, but not limited to, conditions of runways, lights
14 for night operations, runway markings, available restrooms and
15 telephones.

16 **Sec. 2.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State
17 General Fund to the Fund for Aviation, created by NRS 494.048 as
18 a Trust Fund in the State Treasury, the sum of \$1,000,000 for
19 enlargement, improvement or maintenance of rural airports, landing
20 areas or air navigation facilities in Nevada.

21 2. The money appropriated by subsection 1 may only be used
22 by rural airports if matching money is provided to the Fund for
23 Aviation from sources other than the appropriation in subsection 1.

24 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.

