

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2008

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENSON, ARIZONA, OPPOSING THE ENACTMENT OF PROVISIONS IN U.S. S. 1300, THE AVIATION INVESTMENT AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2007, AND OPPOSING ANY MEASURE OR AMENDMENT THAT WOULD OVERHAUL THE CURRENT EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE FUEL TAX SYSTEM USED BY GENERAL AVIATION IN FAVOR OF NEW TAXES AND FEES; AND SUPPORTING H.R. 2881 AND THE AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT & IMPROVEMENT ACT APPROVED BY THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE WHICH FUND MODERNIZATION EFFORTS VIA THE EXISTING FUEL TAX SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the general aviation sector is a vital engine of economic growth in the State of Arizona and the City of Benson, providing jobs, economic opportunity and revenue; and

WHEREAS, S. 1300 "user fee" taxes and any new taxes or fees outside the current funding structure could create significant economic harm and an increased bureaucratic burden on small businesses, small airports, and individuals and organizations that depend upon general aviation, such as the City of Benson and its residents; and

WHEREAS, given the geography of the State of Arizona and of Cochise County, a great many businesses, farms and communities depend upon small planes and general aviation for access to medical treatment, mobility, economic opportunity, disaster relief and a wide range of critical resources and services; and

WHEREAS, the existing excise fuel tax system provides the necessary funding to achieve modernization of our National Air Transportation System and could generate modernization funding in a manner that would not be harmful to small municipalities and small businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, that the City of Benson respectfully opposes the enactment of the provisions of U.S. S. 1300 or any legislation that imposes new taxes and fees upon non-commercial aviation, including "per flight charges," increases in aviation fuel and gas taxes above adjustments for inflation, or any other taxes and fees outside the current funding structure for the Federal Aviation Administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, that the City of Benson endorses and supports both H.R. 2881 and the U.S. Senate "American Infrastructure Investment & Improvement Act" which fully and adequately funds modernization through the existing fuel tax funding structure without the imposition of new fees or taxes upon general aviation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the Governor, the State's Congressional Delegation and the Chairs and Ranking Members of Committees of Jurisdiction in the U.S. House and Senate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENSON, ARIZONA, this 14th day of January, 2008.



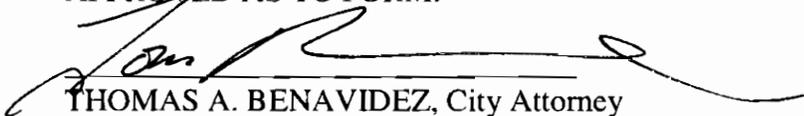
MARK M. FENN, Mayor

ATTEST:



VICKI L. VIVIAN, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



THOMAS A. BENAVIDEZ, City Attorney