



June 27, 2012

## ACTION CALL

### Urge California Legislators to Reject Transfer of Aviation Tax Revenues

#### *What's at Issue*

Legislators in the California state Senate and Assembly are reviewing legislation, [SB 1005](#) and [AB 1465](#), that contains provisions to move the funds collected by excise taxes on aviation fuel sales from the aeronautics account to the general fund over the next three fiscal years. In addition, certain aeronautics funds after 2015 would be transferred to the highway fund.

#### *Why It's Important*

The primary source of funding for the California Department of Transportation's Division of Aeronautics is the excise taxes levied upon aviation gasoline and jet fuel sales. While Division of Aeronautics operating funds would not be affected, the proposed legislation would transfer money used for state aviation grant programs to the government's general fund where it would be used for non aviation purposes. The affected state grant programs are currently used by the Division of Aeronautics as match funding for federal grants for airport development projects. Therefore, the diversion of the relatively small revenues collected by the excise taxes could result in loss of much larger federal funding for airport development projects.

#### *What to Do*

Contact your legislators **TODAY** and ask them to reject this provision. Visit [www.legislature.ca.gov](http://www.legislature.ca.gov) and click LEGISLATORS AND DISTRICTS to find the representative in your district. It is strongly encouraged that you call and fax, mail, or deliver [a letter](#) asking them to reject the changes to SB 1005 and AB 1465 as soon as possible. Continuous constituent outreach is imperative for swift action.

#### *NATA Position*

NATA is working to protect the funding for airport development projects in the state. It is vital that the California aeronautics division receive the funding it needs to maintain and improve programs that contribute to the safety and efficiency of the state's airports.

#### *Status*

The state legislature will hear this proposed legislation on Friday, June 29, and plans to pass the issue no later than Friday evening. NATA will continue to monitor the situation and urges all members in California to contact their legislators today to reject these detrimental changes.

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