



SAN Update

January 14, 2013

Michigan Aeronautics Commission Submits Letter Opposing GA User Fees

The Michigan Aeronautics Commission recently sent [a letter](#) to the Michigan state legislature in opposition to the proposed \$100-per-flight user fee used as a means of fund-raising. The December 14, 2012 letter emphasizes strong ties between local job growth and continued prosperity of the state's general aviation industry and highlights the industry's contributions on local and national levels, showing the positive impact general aviation has to economic development opportunities and jobs.

The letter offers the fuel tax alternative as a favored means of tax collections and outlines the costly and burdensome bureaucracy that would need to be implemented for collection. "While not perfect, the fuel tax is the easiest and most efficient way to fund the Federal Aviation Administration and its programs that benefit all users of the system," the letter states.

Michigan Business Aviation Association (MBAA) Chairman and Michigan Aeronautics Commission Member Roger Salo emphasized the importance of the state's representatives and senators understanding of the issue and the negative repercussions the tax puts on the industry. "We have to educate our legislators, because they constantly turn over," he stated, noting that this is about preserving jobs.

"NATA will continue to work with state and federal officials to promote, protect and defend against unwarranted policies, including this onerous tax implementation," stated NATA President and CEO Thomas L. Hendricks. "It is important that our elected officials are aware of the negative setbacks user fees will have on an industry that positively contributes to our local, state and national economies and communities."