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April 5, 2010

The Honorable Thad Altman
Finance & Tax Chairperson
324 SOB – 404 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chairman Altman:

On behalf of our members, the general aviation businesses in Florida, I am asking that **SB 220** be heard in the Finance and Tax Committee so it will continue through the legislative process.

Please consider the following:

- The passage of SB 220 is an urgent matter this legislative session. The bill will allow aircraft owners to visit Florida for up to 21 days during the first 6 months of ownership of a newly purchased aircraft something that up until now has not been allowed without the threat of receiving a use tax bill from Florida Department of Revenue
- The current restriction on travel to Florida by aircraft owners deprives the State of much needed tourist and business dollars. Passage of this bill will allow aircraft to return to Florida for the owners to do necessary flight training, or have repairs, alterations, refitting, or modification performed therefore bringing much needed revenue to our State.
- Everyone is aware of the funds needed by our State to keep jobs and generate income. Passage of SB 220 will help our workers and provide income from dollars spent while aircraft owners are here as they will stay in our hotels, eat in restaurants, rent cars, go to attractions and enjoy all Florida has to offer.

The Florida Aviation Trades Association (FATA) represents the interest of aviation businesses in Florida since 1946. We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your support for SB 220.

Sincerely,

Paula J. Raeburn

Paula J. Raeburn
Executive Director