

EXHIBIT 1
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SB 1

March 22, 2007

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Subject: Senate Bill 318 comments for the House Judiciary Committee

Gentlemen:

I am a private pilot and aircraft owner. I have a private airstrip on my land 10 miles east of Great Falls, MT. I constructed the airstrip in 1999 and started using it in 2000. The airstrip is shown as a private airstrip on both the State of Montana and the Federal Aviation Administration Aeronautical charts.

About 4 years ago an aircraft enroute to Great Falls from the east had to use my airstrip to land because of unexpected weather that suddenly shut down the Great Falls International Airport and the aircraft couldn't make it to Great Falls. I'm glad my airstrip was available for that pilot and his passengers. What I didn't realize at the time was the liability I was open to because of that pilot's use of my airstrip. Senate Bill 318 will rectify this situation for private airstrips.

Airstrip owners that open their property up to aircraft use at no charge should have no more liability exposure for the use of their land than other property owners that open up their property to the public for other recreational uses such as hunting or fishing. Aircraft are not included in Montana's Recreational Use Statute and this bill will add aircraft to the protection provided to private property owners by the Recreational Use Statute.

Please support this bill.

Thank you,



Daniel F. Prill