

SENATE BILL NO. 180

INTRODUCED BY M. LANG, M. BLASDEL, E. BUTTREY, J. ESSMANN, A. KNUDSEN, R. LYNCH,  
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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CLARIFYING WHICH AIRLINES ARE REGULARLY SCHEDULED  
AIRLINES FOR PURPOSES OF CENTRAL ASSESSMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-23-401 AND 15-23-403,  
MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 15-23-401, MCA, is amended to read:

**"15-23-401. Definitions.** As used in this part, unless the context requires otherwise, the following  
definitions apply:

(1) "Air commerce" means the transportation by aircraft of persons or property for hire in interstate,  
intrastate, or international transportation on regularly scheduled flights.

(2) "Aircraft" means a conveyance used or designed for navigation or flight through the air.

(3) "Equated plane hours" means hours spent by aircraft in flight or on the ground weighted according  
to the cargo capacity of each aircraft.

(4) "Flight property" means aircraft fully equipped, ready for flight used in air commerce.

(5) "Newly acquired aircraft" means an aircraft acquired and placed into service within the calendar year  
immediately preceding the current calendar year in which the report that is required by 15-23-402 is filed  
regardless of whether the aircraft acquired is new or used. Newly acquired aircraft includes an aircraft acquired  
and placed in service in calendar year 1997 provided that the aircraft was included in the report and the report  
was timely filed.

(6) "Newly acquired equipment" means equipment acquired and placed into service within the calendar  
year immediately preceding the current calendar year in which the report that is required by 15-23-402 is filed  
regardless of whether the equipment acquired is new or used. Newly acquired equipment includes equipment  
acquired and placed in service in calendar year 1997 provided that the equipment was included in the report and  
the report was timely filed.

(7) "Operating" or "operated" means landings or takeoffs during interstate flight.

