

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 313

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALKER (3).

0963H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 305, RSMo, by adding thereto six new sections relating to abandoned aircraft.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 305, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto six new sections, to be
2 known as sections 305.700, 305.702, 305.704, 305.706, 305.708, and 305.710, to read as
3 follows:

305.700. As used in sections 305.700 to 305.710, the following terms mean:

- 2 **(1) "Abandoned aircraft", an aircraft left in a wrecked, inoperative, or partially**
3 **dismantled condition on an airport; or an aircraft that has remained in an idle state on an**
4 **airport for forty-five consecutive calendar days without a contractual agreement between**
5 **the owner or operator of the aircraft and the airport for use of the airport premises;**
6 **(2) "Airport superintendent", the person or group of people authorized to make**
7 **decisions on behalf of an airport;**
8 **(3) "Derelict aircraft", any aircraft that is not in a flyable condition, does not have**
9 **a current certificate of airworthiness issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, and**
10 **is not in the process of actively being repaired.**

305.702. 1. If a derelict aircraft or abandoned aircraft is discovered on airport
2 **property, the airport superintendent shall:**

- 3 **(1) Make a record of the date the aircraft was discovered on the airport; and**
4 **(2) Inquire as to the name and address of any person having an equitable or legal**
5 **interest in the aircraft, including the owner and any lien holders, by:**
6 **(a) Contacting the Federal Aviation Administration, aircraft registration branch,**
7 **and making a diligent search of the appropriate records; or**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

8 (b) Contacting an aircraft title search company.

9 2. Within ten business days of receiving the information requested under subsection
10 1 of this section, the airport superintendent shall notify the owner and all other interested
11 parties by certified mail, return receipt requested:

12 (1) Of the location of the derelict or abandoned aircraft on the airport property;

13 (2) That fees and charges for the use of the airport by the aircraft have accrued and
14 the amount of those fees and charges;

15 (3) That the aircraft is subject to a lien under section 305.706 for any unpaid and
16 accrued fees and charges for the use of the airport and for the transportation, storage, and
17 removal of the aircraft;

18 (4) That the lien is subject to enforcement pursuant to this section;

19 (5) That the airport may use, trade, sell, or remove the aircraft as described in
20 Section 305.704 if, within thirty calendar days after the date of receipt of the notice, the
21 owner or other interested party has not removed the aircraft from the airport and paid in
22 full all accrued fees and charges for the use of the airport and for the transportation,
23 storage, and removal of the aircraft; and

24 (6) That the airport superintendent may remove the aircraft in less than thirty
25 calendar days if the aircraft poses a danger to the health or safety of users of the airport,
26 as determined by the airport superintendent.

27 3. (1) If the owner of the aircraft is unknown or cannot be found after the inquiry
28 required under subdivision (1) of subsection 2 of this section, the airport superintendent
29 shall place a notice upon the aircraft in a conspicuous position containing the information
30 required under subdivisions (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) of subsection 2 of this section.

31 (2) The notice required under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be not less
32 than eight inches by ten inches and shall be laminated or otherwise sufficiently
33 weatherproof to withstand normal exposure to rain, snow, and other conditions.

305.704. If the owner or other interested party has not removed the aircraft from
2 the airport and paid in full all accrued fees and charges for the use of the airport and for
3 the transportation, storage, and removal of the aircraft, or shown reasonable cause for the
4 failure to do so within thirty calendar days of the airport superintendent posting notice
5 under section 305.702, the airport superintendent may:

6 (1) Retain the aircraft for use by the airport, the state, or the unit of local
7 government owning or operating the airport;

8 (2) Trade the aircraft to another unit of local government or a state agency;

9 (3) Sell the aircraft; or

10 **(4) Dispose of the aircraft through an appropriate refuse removal company or a**
11 **company that provides salvage services for aircraft.**

12 **2. If the airport superintendent elects to sell the aircraft in accordance with**
13 **subdivision (3) of subsection 1 of this section, the aircraft shall be sold at public auction**
14 **after giving notice of the time and place of sale, at least ten calendar days prior to the date**
15 **of sale, in a newspaper of general circulation within the county where the airport is located**
16 **and after providing written notice of the intended sale to all parties known to have an**
17 **interest in the aircraft.**

18 **3. If the airport superintendent elects to dispose of the aircraft in accordance with**
19 **subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of this section, the airport superintendent shall be entitled**
20 **to negotiate with the company for a price to be received from the company in payment for**
21 **the aircraft, or, if circumstances so warrant, a price to be paid to the company by the**
22 **airport superintendent for the costs of disposing of the aircraft. All information and**
23 **records pertaining to the establishment of the price and the justification for the amount of**
24 **the price shall be prepared and maintained by the airport superintendent.**

25 **4. If the sale price or the negotiated price is less than the airport superintendent's**
26 **current fees and charges against the aircraft, the owner of the aircraft shall remain liable**
27 **to the airport superintendent for the fees and charges that are not offset by the sale price**
28 **or negotiated price.**

29 **5. All costs incurred by the airport superintendent in the removal, storage, and sale**
30 **of any aircraft shall be recoverable against the owner of the aircraft.**

305.706. 1. The airport superintendent shall have a lien on a derelict or abandoned
2 **aircraft for all unpaid fees and charges for the use of the airport by the aircraft and for all**
3 **unpaid costs incurred by the airport superintendent for the transportation, storage, and**
4 **removal of the aircraft. As a prerequisite to perfecting a lien under this section, the airport**
5 **superintendent shall serve a notice on the last registered owner and all persons having an**
6 **equitable or legal interest in the aircraft.**

7 **2. (1) For the purpose of perfecting a lien under this section, the airport**
8 **superintendent shall record a claim of lien that states:**

9 **(a) The name and address of the airport;**

10 **(b) The name of the last registered owner of the aircraft and all persons having a**
11 **legal or equitable interest in the aircraft;**

12 **(c) The fees and charges incurred by the aircraft for the use of the airport and the**
13 **costs for the transportation, storage, and removal of the aircraft; and**

14 **(d) A description of the aircraft sufficient for identification.**

15 (2) The claim of lien shall be signed and sworn to or affirmed by the airport
16 superintendent's director or the director's designee.

17 (3) The claim of lien shall be served on the last registered owner of the aircraft and
18 all persons having an equitable or legal interest in the aircraft. The claim of lien shall be
19 served before recordation.

20 (4) The claim of lien shall be recorded with the recorder of deeds in the county
21 where the airport is located. The recording of the claim of lien shall be constructive notice
22 to all persons of the contents and effect of such claim. The lien shall attach at the time of
23 recordation and shall take priority as of that time.

305.708. 1. If the aircraft is sold, the airport superintendent shall satisfy the airport
2 superintendent's lien, plus the reasonable expenses of notice, advertisement, and sale, from
3 the proceeds of the sale.

4 **2.** The balance of the proceeds of the sale, if any, shall be held by the airport
5 superintendent and delivered on demand to the owner of the aircraft.

6 **3.** If no person claims the balance within twelve months of the date of sale, the
7 airport shall retain the funds and use the funds for airport operations.

305.710. 1. Any person acquiring a legal interest in an aircraft under sections
2 305.700 to 305.710 shall be the lawful owner of the aircraft and all other legal or equitable
3 interests in that aircraft shall be divested; provided that, the holder of any legal or
4 equitable interest was notified of the intended disposal of the aircraft as required under
5 sections 305.700 to 305.710.

6 **2.** The airport superintendent may issue documents of disposition to the purchaser
7 or recipient of an aircraft disposed of under sections 305.700 to 305.710.

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