

CHAPTER 360

AERONAUTICS

360.013 Definitions.

360.015 Commissioner; powers and duties.

360.0151 Air service marketing program.

360.017 State airports fund.

360.013 DEFINITIONS.*[For text of subs 1 to 19, see M.S.1996]*

Subd. 20. Municipality. "Municipality" means a city of any class, including a city organized under a charter framed pursuant to the Constitution of the state of Minnesota, article 4, section 36, article XI, section 4, or article XII, section 5, a county, a town, or a statutory city in this state, the regents of the University of Minnesota, and any other political subdivision, public corporation, authority, or district in this state which is or may be authorized by law to acquire, establish, construct, maintain, improve, and operate airports and other air navigation facilities.

*[For text of subs 21 to 30, see M.S.1996]***History:** 1997 c 7 art 4 s 1**360.015 COMMISSIONER; POWERS AND DUTIES.***[For text of subs 1 to 16, see M.S.1996]*

Subd. 17. Report to governor. On or before October 1 in every even-numbered year the commissioner shall make to the governor a full report of the proceedings of the department for the preceding two fiscal years, together with the commissioner's recommendations pertaining to the affairs of the department.

*[For text of subs 18 and 19, see M.S.1996]***History:** 1997 c 7 art 2 s 51**360.0151 AIR SERVICE MARKETING PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. Program established. The commissioner of transportation shall establish an air service marketing program to encourage the preservation and expansion of scheduled passenger air carrier service to greater Minnesota. The commissioner may spend funds appropriated from the state airports fund for (1) air service marketing grants and (2) conducting statewide studies to determine the feasibility of air service initiatives. The commissioner may develop a single, recognizable statewide marketing program to increase visibility of and ridership at airports with scheduled air carrier service.

Subd. 2. Grants authorized. (a) The commissioner may make air service marketing grants to political subdivisions that own and operate airports designated by order of the commissioner as key airports. The commissioner shall make a project agreement with each political subdivision receiving a grant under this section that provides for:

- (1) a detailed description of the project for which the grant is provided;
- (2) a schedule of the project; and
- (3) the division of costs of the project between the state and the recipient.

(b) Payments by the commissioner under a project agreement may only be made to reimburse local costs already incurred.

Subd. 3. Uses of grant. (a) Costs for the following activities related to commercial passenger air service at the recipient's airport are eligible for reimbursement under this section:

- (1) advertising of service;
- (2) public relations activities intended to educate the public on the value of the airport and its commercial passenger air service;

- (3) marketing studies; or
 - (4) service improvement activities such as route analysis, service studies, and other activities intended to preserve or increase service from an existing or new-entry air carrier.
- (b) A grant under this section may not be used for:
- (1) an activity that promotes an airport within the service area of another airport;
 - (2) a promotional activity that features one specific air carrier at an airport when more than one air carrier serves the airport;
 - (3) administrative costs associated with the marketing program or with the routine operation of the airport; or
 - (4) payments to air carriers as fare subsidies, service subsidies, or seat guarantees.

History: 1997 c 159 art 2 s 46

360.017 STATE AIRPORTS FUND.

Subdivision 1. **Creation; authorized disbursements.** (a) There is hereby created a fund to be known as the state airports fund. The fund shall consist of all money appropriated to it, or directed to be paid into it, by the legislature.

(b) The state airports fund shall be paid out on authorization of the commissioner and shall be used:

- (1) to acquire, construct, improve, maintain, and operate airports and other air navigation facilities;
- (2) to assist municipalities in the acquisition, construction, improvement, and maintenance of airports and other air navigation facilities;
- (3) to assist municipalities to initiate, enhance, and market scheduled air service at their airports;
- (4) to promote interest and safety in aeronautics through education and information; and
- (5) to pay the salaries and expenses of the department of transportation related to aeronautic planning, administration, and operation. All allotments of money from the state airports fund for salaries and expenses shall be approved by the commissioner of finance.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1996]

History: 1997 c 159 art 2 s 47