

Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

On request of Rep. John Petersburg, State Representative 19B

Testimony Regarding SC0856 Amended, concerning Roadable Aircraft

Chair and Committee members, Representatives, and guests of the Committee,

My name is Russell Bousfield, and I am the legal analyst for Samson Sky, one of a few aerospace companies who are producing new vehicles which can be driven on roads and flown through the sky. These vehicles are designed to fit within existing Federal safety and equipment standards for Motorcycles, and those for Aircraft, hence the moniker "Roadable Aircraft."

Because it has two distinct modes of transportation, Roadable Aircraft are subject to two classifications, and with those comes double the compliance requirements, double the fees, double the paperwork, et cetera. Knowing that multi-classification vehicles are around the corner, I started researching and proposing legislation at the State-level to simplify some of the Departmental administrative processes and clear any blockers that would prohibit or impede registration, operation, and ownership of Roadable Aircraft.

Based on the legislation that was passed in New Hampshire, I began researching and proposing legislation to the other States in our Union. The proposed legislation for Minnesota includes the following:

- It enters a definition of "Roadable Aircraft" as a Motor Vehicle under the code,
- It allows the Commissioner to issue Registration Decals in place of license-plates, and defines the contents of the Decal,
- It outlines the process of registering a Roadable Aircraft as a Motor Vehicle,
- It separates Roadable Aircraft from Autocycle,
- It details the vehicle classification based on operation and configuration,
- It enters in operation requirements based on the above,
- It clarifies some location-based operational parameters,
- It details which requirements in the code must be applied,
- And it lists penalties for basic violations of licensing and unsafe safe operations.

In addition to the above legislation, Roadable Aircraft are held to the Federal requirements for safety and equipment, and each Roadable Aircraft is required to undergo a yearly inspection and maintenance process to ensure all components are performing appropriately.

On behalf of Samson Sky and PAL-V, I wholly support SC0856 and congratulate the legislative body on a well-written bill that will lessen the administrative burden for both the Department and Minnesotans.

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