HB176

E3UW9CC-2

By Representative Lomax

RFD: Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure

First Read: 15-Feb-24

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to aviation; to require the Department of Transportation to take certain actions regarding advanced air mobility; and to prohibit political subdivisions of the state from enacting rules or regulations regarding advanced air mobility in certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) POWERED-LIFT AIRCRAFT. A heavier-than-air aircraft capable of vertical takeoff, vertical landing, and low speed flight that depends principally on engine drive lift devices or engine thrust for lift.

(2) VERTIPORT. An area of land or water, or a structure, used or intended to be used for the takeoff or landing of powered-lift aircraft.

(b) The Department of Transportation shall do all of the following:

(1) Develop a statewide plan to include vertiports, electric aviation charging, and the infrastructure needs of other advances in aviation technology. No existing state

revenues accruing to the department in the Public Road and Bridge Fund, the Rebuild Alabama Fund, or other state revenues used for the purpose of matching federal funds shall be used for the purpose of developing or updating this statewide plan.

(2) Designate a liaison for advanced air mobility within the department as a resource for local and regional jurisdictions navigating advances in aviation technology.

(3) Coordinate with experts in the public and private sector to provide local and regional jurisdictions with educational and technical resources to support uniform planning and zoning language across the state regarding powered-lift aircraft, electric aviation, and other advances in aviation technology.

(c)(1) A political subdivision of this state, other than an airport operator, shall not enact any law, ordinance, regulation, or rule relating to advanced air mobility.

(2) An airport operator may only enact a law, rule, regulation, or ordinance relating to advanced air mobility that applies within the geographic boundaries over which the airport operator has authority.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.

House of Representatives

Read for the first time and referred 15-Feb-24
to the House of Representatives
committee on Transportation,
Utilities and Infrastructure

Read for the second time and placed 28-Feb-24
on the calendar:
1 amendment

Read for the third time and passed 05-Mar-24
as amended
Yeas 102
Nays 0
Abstains 0

John Treadwell
Clerk