



September 22, 2011 – I was honored to speak at the Alabama Airport Conference in Birmingham, AL on Tuesday, September 20. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to meet many of the hardworking and innovative airport leaders in the state. I also appreciated the opportunity to talk about what GAAC is doing for GA airports around the country, and to give a brief update on what is happening in Washington, DC that will affect GA airports for years to come. A copy of my presentation follows.

Thank you to all my new friends in Alabama that made me feel so welcome. I look forward to working with you.

All the best,  
Jennifer Imo



**GAAC**  
General Aviation Airport Coalition

Presentation to the Alabama Airport Conference  
September 20, 2011

[www.gaairportcoalition.org](http://www.gaairportcoalition.org)

# Overview of Presentation

- Background on GAAC and What We Do?
- Federal Affairs Update
  - FAA Reauthorization
  - BARR Program
  - American Jobs Act
  - Freedom from Government Competition Act
  - FAA's GA Airport Study (ASSET)
- How To Become A Member
- Q&A



# What is GAAC?

- GAAC = General Aviation Airport Coalition
- Recently founded to give an exclusive, unified voice to General Aviation Airports
- 57 members in 21 states
  - GA Airports
  - State Departments of Transportation
  - State Airport Associations



# What Does GAAC Do?

## FEDERAL FOCUS

Involvement in federal issues such as:

- FAA's GA Airport Study (ASSET)
- FAA Reauthorization
- BARR Program
- TSA's Large Aircraft Security Program

Demonstrate the importance of GA Airports to federal decision makers

Lobbying toolkit

# What Does GAAC Do?

## LOCAL FOCUS

Portal for members to share information.

Tools to empower GAAC members to be effective airport advocates in their communities

Web-based discussion forum to help members manage, operate, and promote GA airports, sharing information, experiences, and best practices.

# Federal Affairs Update

- 22<sup>nd</sup> Extension of FAA authorization passed on Sept. 15 – runs through January 31, 2012
- GAAC's advocacy on reauthorization
  - 4 year bill (**House**)
  - AIP
    - Higher funding level (House - \$12.2 billion (avg \$3.05B/year); **Senate** - \$8.1 billion (avg \$4.05B/year))
    - Better cost share (House - 90/10; **Senate** - 95/5)
  - Through the Fence protections (**House**)
  - Work with GA in development of NextGen (**House and Senate**)

# Federal Affairs Update

- DOT's plans to dismantle Blocked Aircraft Registration Request (BARR) Program
- GAAC's advocacy
  - Joint press release with NBAA
  - Press release and action alert to members to support S. 1477/H.R. 2897 that would prevent FAA from dismantling the BARR program
    - Sen. Pat Roberts (KS) (8/2/11); Rep. Mike Pompeo (KS) (9/12/11)



# Federal Affairs Update

## American Jobs Act

- \$450 billion plan to stimulate the economy and create jobs
  - \$2B for airport development grants
    - 100% Federal share
  - \$1B to advance NextGen
  - \$10B American Infrastructure Financing Authority (AIFA)

# Federal Affairs Update

## HR 1474/S 785- Freedom From Government Competition Act

- Bill requires federal agencies to obtain goods and services from private sources
- Purpose: to address unfair government competition with private sector
- Any State or political subdivision of a State must comply with the policy when expending Federal funds.
- This bill would negatively affect revenue stream to many of GA airports.

# Federal Affairs Update

## National Airport System Strategic Evaluation Task (ASSET)

- Categorizing GA airports
- Data-driven process led by FAA Airports, in coordination with NASAO, AAAE, ACI, ACC, AOPA, and others
  - NASAO State Advisory Team (AL, MA, MO, OK, WI)

# Why Join?

- Obtain federal and local advocacy tools
- Help chart the future of GA airports
- Take a stand on issues that are important to your airport
- Access interactive web-based forum exclusive to GA airports
  - Share best practices
  - Vendor and product referrals from other airport managers
  - Reference library

# Membership Fees

Membership Category	Membership Fee
Less than 30 aircraft	\$100
31 – 100 aircraft	\$200
101 – 200 aircraft	\$300
201 or more aircraft	\$400
State Association/DOT	\$250
Individual member	\$100 (this level not available for airport managers)
Student member	\$50
Associate Member (<100 employees)	\$500
Associate Member (>100 employees)	\$100

# How To Become A Member

It's simple:

1. Visit [www.gaairportcoalition.org](http://www.gaairportcoalition.org)
2. Sign up today
3. Call 1.202.454.3966

# Q&A

For additional questions or comments,  
contact Jennifer Imo, Executive Director

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