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Bulletin No. 14

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Flying in Alaska - Tips for a safe flight

<p align="center"><b>FLYER'S RIGHTS</b></p> <p align="center">PILOTS are entitled to expect passengers to:</p>	<p align="center"><b>FLYER'S RIGHTS</b></p> <p align="center">PASSENGERS are entitled to ask pilots about:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comply with their directions as to loading of the aircraft.</li> <li>• Accept the nature of the VFR flight and the possibility of delays are cancellation of the trip.</li> <li>• Follow their instructions in the event of an emergency.</li> </ul> <p><i>Other important information</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Am I suitably dressed in case of an enroute crash?</i></li> <li>• <i>Are ear plugs available?</i></li> <li>• <i>Did I give my flight route, destination, and timeline to a reliable friend or family member?</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location of the Emergency Locator Transmitter and survival equipment</li> <li>• How to exit the airplane during an emergency?</li> <li>• Tying down all cargo.</li> <li>• A seat and seatbelt for every passenger.</li> <li>• A preflight safety briefing</li> <li>• the weight and balance of the aircraft.</li> <li>• The takeoff and landing performance for the aircraft at this weight.</li> <li>• The weather conditions and filing a flight plan.</li> </ul>

Alaska's aviation community is committed to safety. Commercial air carriers are regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and operate under strict flight standards that cover all phases of their operations such as pilot training, aircraft maintenance, airport limitations and weather conditions. Private pilots, also regulated by the FAA, invest a great amount of time, energy and money to hone their skills so they can cope with the difficult conditions of flying in Alaska.

For several years, the Section of Epidemiology has studied aviation-related injuries and incidents in which an aircraft receives substantial damage.

During the past year, we have collaborated with many professional pilots and aviation organizations to develop this new aviation safety program and message --**FLYER'S RIGHTS**--targeted at private pilots and passengers. We received technical assistance in identifying key safety information from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Alaska Aviation Safety Foundation (AASF), Alaska Airmen's Association (AAA), and Alaska Air Carriers Association (AACA). We thank all for their suggestions, criticisms, and advice.

Important safety tips have been printed on wallet-sized plastic cards that are being distributed throughout Alaska. Cards also are available free-of-charge from the Section of Epidemiology. We hope this information will help remind all who fly to double check these key safety points before departure.

(We appreciate the endorsement of this new program by the AASF)