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HOUSE BILL 2211

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State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2017 1st Special Session  
By Representative Young

1            AN ACT Relating to restricting the use of airport police to  
2 enforce private airlines' nonsecurity-related policies; amending RCW  
3 53.08.280; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 1.**        (1) The legislature recognizes that  
6 airport police play an important role in the efficient operations of  
7 this state's public airports. Airport police contribute to the safety  
8 and security of travelers while they are on airport property and the  
9 security of the many airport tenants.

10            (2) The legislature also recognizes that airport police have  
11 limited resources, and the focus of airport police should be on the  
12 safety and welfare of airport tenants and travelers rather than the  
13 enforcement of ticketing policies of individual private airline  
14 companies.

15            (3) The legislature finds that, in light of recent events, it is  
16 necessary to clarify the appropriate use of airport police officers  
17 in this state's public airports.

18            **Sec. 2.**        RCW 53.08.280 and 1981 c 97 s 1 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

1       (1) Subject to the restrictions established under subsection 2 of  
2 this section, any port district operating an airport with a police  
3 department as authorized by RCW 14.08.120 or designated as a port of  
4 entry by the federal government is authorized to appoint police  
5 officers with full police powers to enforce all applicable federal,  
6 state, or municipal statutes, rules, regulations, or ordinances upon  
7 any port-owned or operated properties or operations: PROVIDED, That  
8 such police officers must have successfully graduated from a  
9 recognized professional police academy or training institution.

10       (2) A port district operating an airport with a police department  
11 under this section may not permit its police officers or agents of  
12 the police department to remove passengers, or assist in the removal  
13 of passengers, from an airline's aircraft to enforce the airline's  
14 overbooking policies or any other airline policy or procedure that is  
15 not related to security or safety.

16       NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. Nothing in this act shall be construed to  
17 alter the terms, conditions, or practices contained in any collective  
18 bargaining agreement in effect on the effective date of this section,  
19 until the expiration date of such agreement.

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