

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6560**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 535**

**NOTE PREPARED: Apr 1, 2013**  
**BILL AMENDED: Mar 28, 2013**

**SUBJECT:** Airport Authorities and Economic Development.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Grooms  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Stemler

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended)The bill provides that if Clark County establishes an airport authority:

- (1) It shall be named the South Central Regional Airport Authority;
- (2) The authority's budget, tax levies, and bonds or leases payable from property taxes must be approved by the Clark County fiscal body;
- (3) The board of the airport authority must issue for each year an annual report that contains certain elements and to present the annual report at public hearings of the county executive of Clark County, the fiscal body of Clark County, and the legislative body of the town of Sellersburg;
- (4) The board of the airport authority must maintain certain liability insurance coverage;
- (5) The fiscal body of Clark County may establish an airport authority with either four or five members.
  - A) If the fiscal body of Clark County establishes an airport authority with four members, one of the members shall be appointed by the legislative body of the town of Sellersburg and three members shall be appointed by the county executive of Clark County.
  - B) The board of the airport authority may consist of five members if the county fiscal body adopts an ordinance or resolution under the provision in current law authorizing such a five member board. If the board of the airport authority consists of five members, three of the members of the board shall be appointed by the county executive of Clark County, one of the members of the board shall be appointed by the fiscal body of Clark County, and one of the members of the board shall be appointed by the legislative body of the town of Sellersburg.
- (6) The individuals serving as members of the Clark County Board of Aviation Commissioners at the time the airport authority is established shall become the initial members of the board of the airport authority.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The reporting requirements as well as the liability insurance requirements could add to the administrative expenses of the airport authority. The board of the airport authority will determine the amount of liability insurance to be purchased. The annual reporting requirements outlined in the bill specify a report that includes information on yearly audited financials, minutes of each board meeting held during the year, as well as a report of any pending or potential litigation involving the airport authority and/or the board of the airport authority. The costs associated with these two requirements are indeterminate at this time.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** (Revised) The bill has an indeterminate fiscal impact on Clark County as it is based on the actions of the county council of Clark County in establishing an airport authority. If an airport authority were created, under this bill the Clark County Council would be required to approve the budget, tax levies, and debt of the airport authority.

*Background:* Clark County already operates a regional airport through the Clark County Board Aviation Commission. Known as the Clark Regional Airport, it is considered to be a reliever airport. These airports are designated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to relieve congestion at commercial service airports and to provide improved access to the community. The Clark Regional Airport is publicly owned.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Clark County.

**Information Sources:** Clark Regional Airport website - <http://www.clarkregionalairport.com/>; Indiana Legislative Services Agency County Property Tax Report 2012 - <http://www.in.gov/legislative/2397.htm>; River Ridge Commerce Center website - <http://www.riverridgecc.com/>; Federal Aviation Administration - [http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning\\_capacity/passenger\\_allcargo\\_stats/categories/](http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats/categories/).

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