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FAA grants comment extension at the request of AMA

MUNCIE—At the request of the AMA, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has granted a 60-day extension for the public comment period (Docket No. FAA-2014-0396) for FAA's Interpretation of the Special Rule for Model Aircraft established by Congress as part of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. The 60-day extension establishes the new deadline for comments as September 23, 2014.

In the United States Department of Transportation/FAA notice published in the Federal Register on July 25, 2014, the FAA noted the following:

"On July 16, 2014, the Academy of Model Aeronautics submitted a request to extend the comment period by 60 days, citing the need to "educate the aeromodeling community, clarify the issues, and respond to questions regarding the impact that the interpretive rule has on various aspects of the modeling activity." The FAA agrees that additional time for the submission of comments would be helpful, and therefore has decided to extend the comment period until September 23, 2014. The FAA expects that the additional time for comments will allow the affected community to prepare meaningful comments which will help the FAA to determine what clarifications to the interpretation may be necessary."

The Academy of Model Aeronautics will continue to encourage its membership, partnering organizations, and the aeromodeling media to comment on the interpretation. Several items outlined in the interpretation could significantly impact the entire aeromodeling community, and the AMA is resolutely committed to protecting the hobby.

At the request of its membership, AMA has developed a simplified explanation, and suggested comments to the Interpretive Rule. Additional information, as well as a video, can be found on the government relations section of modelaircraft.org.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics has been the nation's collective voice for approximately 165,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in every state and U.S. territories since 1936. A nonprofit association, headquartered in Muncie IN, AMA sanctions more than 2,000 events and competitions each year under the auspices of the National Aeronautic Association.