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MEDIA RELEASE

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AMA LAUNCHES GOVERNMENT RELATIONS WEBSITE TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL FAA REGULATIONS

M U N C I E, I N - On February 4 several threads appeared on RC Internet forums concerning two documents posted on the AMA website archives several months ago. Those “position statement” documents were prepared during a prior phase of working with the FAA’s Unmanned Aircraft Program Office (UAPO), in 2010, and, in some instances, no longer represent the situation as it currently stands.

To keep its members and the aeromodeling community apprised of this unfolding issue, the Academy has launched an expanded government relations section of its website at www.modelaircraft.org/gov.

Dave Mathewson, president of AMA said: “When the AMA and the FAA conducted an open forum on January 8 at the annual AMA Expo, we learned a great deal more about where this process is heading, “Some concerns expressed in those prior documents regarding potential and specific restrictions on model aircraft appear to have been resolved. However, we do believe that some of the concerns expressed in those position papers may still be issues that could eventually appear in the FAA’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) due to be released this summer. We are working to address those particular issues in our standards. It’s important to note that until the proposed rule is released as an NPRM for public comment, the FAA is prohibited by law from speaking directly about what may be in the proposed rule. We will continue to work with the UAPO on these issues.”

The Academy’s position statement, background on the issue, and answers to frequently asked questions can be found at www.modelaircraft.org/gov and for specific questions for the AMA Advocacy team you may write to AMA via amagov@modelaircraft.org.

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