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TROUBLE BECAUSE OF NEW FLIGHT SECURITY FEES ALSO AT ATIS AIRPORTS

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Many pilots have surprisingly received mail from their airfield in the last few days. In this letter, the airport users are informed that new approach fees could be introduced at the AFIS airports (without a control zone but with RMZ / IFR procedures) and at the smaller regional airports with a control zone from September 1, 2021, where these fees have so far been introduced did not exist. We as AOPA-Germany were also completely surprised when our colleagues from the Association of Regional Airfields IDRF informed us about the corresponding plans at the end of July.

Background: The Federal Ministry of Transport (BMVI) also wants to financially support those airfields with IFR procedures that are not looked after by DFS like the international airports, which the airfields and we as AOPA-Germany find quite positive. So far so good. However, one has failed to coordinate this with the pilot associations such as the DAeC, the DULV or the AOPA-Germany, although these are ultimately supposed to secure the financing with their fees, at least in part, and the federal government also wants to contribute with its budget funds. An originally planned exemption for aircraft below 2 t MTOM, which was apparently also intended for the route charges, was apparently taken off the table "very shortly before the shop closes" due to formal legal concerns. This of course increases the expected fees enormously, because the small planes are responsible for most of the take-offs and landings at these airfields and airports. At least the small planes should pay by the end of 2022, if necessary a two-tonne exemption for 2023 could be postponed after the federal elections, if the new political majorities allow this. That would then have to be sold to

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