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Testimony Supporting SB 534

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

With our experience as land owners and business owners at the Aurora Airport since 1968 I can positively verify the need for this bill.

It must be understood that Airports are unique in that they do not belong in a city but need infrastructure to properly and efficiently operate.

Please understand the normal finances of all Airports which are 100% funded by Federal, State, and local Aviation fees collected on ticket sales, fuel, Airport land leases and other Aviation sources.

Most Airports; like Aurora do not have a city nearby with any Aviation experience, skill, or facilities to manage an Airport so annexation is not a good usually a good option.

The Aurora Airport, like all Airports is an excellent neighbor in that it brings; career and recreational flight training, charter flights to thousands of destinations, Air-Ambulance, unparalleled direct and secure business transportation, emergency transportation, and living wage jobs in maintenance, refueling, sales and Aircraft support.

The best placement for Airports is in agricultural settings with golf courses as compatible neighbors due to flight path clearances, Aircraft sound during take-off and landings, and emergency landing options.

To summarize; Airports are great neighbors but not if too nearby and need a "buffer" from any city or high density development and because of their level of internal activity they need infrastructure.

Thank you and please contact me with any questions.

Bruce Erik Bennett
President