

Good Afternoon Committee Chair Caddy McKeown:

As private pilots and members of several aviation related organizations, (Oregon Pilots Association, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Aerodynamics Flying Club, AOPA, etc.) we encourage you to defeat House Bill 3193 related to penalizing general aviation for the use of leaded gasoline. The FAA has addressed this issue; unleaded fuel replacements are in testing right now for a mandatory release in 2018. The amount of lead added to the environment by general aviation (GA) is very small and not considered a health risk by *any state or federal environmental or public health agency*.

Importantly, GA in Oregon contributes 3.02 BILLION dollars a year to the Oregon economy. The Oregon economy and residents benefit from general aviation in many ways. General aviation pilots provide free air transportation to the critically ill who live in remote areas through Angel Flights. They provide free learning experiences to young people through Young Eagle flight programs sponsored by Experimental Aircraft Association. In addition to these educational and humanitarian purposes, general aviation provides Life Flight services, fire fighting services, search and rescue missions, and many other business related functions that could not exist successfully without the time saving use of general aviation.

We encourage you to defeat HB 3193 and rely on the FAA to continue their unleaded fuel replacement program instead of creating a burden on the State's general aviation community and penalizing those who rely them for transportation, business and recreational purposes.

Sincerely,

Larry and Christine Stevens
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