

I hear that legislators are pushing legislation this week that will add a dramatic tax on aviation grade fuel in the state of Oregon.

This will hurt the recreational user and local airport economies in this state. Considering the cost to the economy, it would be far more effective to pass legislation to make automotive (mogas) readily available at local airports. I do not like using, paying the high cost, or the minimal environmental effects of 100LL. This is purely punitive measure against users of a fuel for which the FAA & EPA are aggressively working to have replaced in a few short years. There is a huge effort to develop a replacement for 100LL by the FAA, EPA and Private enterprise. While it's true that lead in the environment is harmful to animals, humans included, I don't believe that the amount added by the limited use of the Boutique aviation fuel, 100LL is making that much of a difference. In fact, I would be willing too bet money that if an air monitoring station was set up 200 yards from the runway (people are not likely to be closer) of the average airport, they would not detect the presence of 10LL being used. NOT scientific. Yet the FAA & industry has and is committed to find and test a safe replacement fuel. All federal governmental agencies have long determined that the small amount of lead which is used on aviation fuel has NO adverse environmental impact.

Oregon placing this punitive tax on 100LL fuel will NOT serve to usher in a replacement one day sooner. Instead, it will divert funds from struggling Oregon aviation business's into state coffers of which NONE of it goes back to help the very industry segment from which the funds are being robbed from. If this passes, I for one will fly across the river into WA to fill my airplane rather than buy the fuel in OR.

You MUST urge all lawmakers to defeat these efforts which serves no one and directly works to the detriment of Oregon's economy.

Sincerely,  
Pete Gauthier  
Wodburn, OR