



OREGON PILOTS ASSOCIATION

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House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use, and Water  
Oregon State Capital  
900 Court Street  
Salem, OR 97301

May 11, 2015

Re; *Support* of HB 534  
Chair Clem, Vice-Chairs Helm and Post, Representatives Guillian, Gomberg, McLane, and Witt,

Oregon Pilots Association would like to express strong support for the passage of SB 534, allowing cities and airports to reach an agreement to extend water and sewer to airport property without annexing the airport into the city. Airports and aircraft have had a strong partnership with agriculture, from the large agri-businesses and crop dusters, to the family ranch where the Cessna 182 is the only way to reach town without hours of driving or to find the cow and calf lost on the range.

Aviation businesses, locating at or in the immediate vicinity of airports, bring much needed jobs and economic benefit to rural Oregon. Our rural economy lags far behind that of the metro area and the addition of small, aviation-related businesses to the town's tax base can have a positive impact on rural communities. Note the addition of well over sixty living-wage jobs to Sisters, Oregon, after the improvement of Sister's Eagle Airport.

The type of improvement provided for in this bill does *not* encourage urban sprawl, nor will it disrupt agricultural practices. Aviation businesses tend to limit their presence to the airport property, and businesses that are only interested in airport access will simply locate in town. If annexation is not required, existing restrictions favoring farm use will remain in place and development will be limited to the existing town or city and the airport, rather than spreading out into annexed land.

This is an important economic issue for our agricultural community and I respectfully urge you to send SB534 to the House floor for final passage. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Rosenblum".

Mary Rosenblum  
President Oregon Pilots Association  
503-896-2470