

Senate Joint Memorial 1

Sponsored by Senator DEMBROW, Representative GREENLICK; Senators ROSENBAUM, STEINER HAYWARD, Representatives BARNHART, BUCKLEY, FREDERICK, KENY-GUYER, REARDON, SMITH WARNER, VEGA PEDERSON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Expresses support for Federal Aviation Administration initiative to certify safe unleaded aviation fuel.

JOINT MEMORIAL

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2 To the Honorable Michael P. Huerta, Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and the
3 Honorable Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection
4 Agency:

5 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in leg-
6 islative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

7 Whereas aviation gasoline, or "avgas," as it is commonly known, is utilized in general aviation
8 aircraft that are powered by internal combustion reciprocating piston engines; and

9 Whereas avgas is a leaded fuel and its combustion results in toxic air emissions of lead; and

10 Whereas according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the operation of
11 general aviation aircraft is the greatest source of lead emissions in Oregon; and

12 Whereas lead that is emitted into the air can be inhaled or, after it settles out of the air,
13 ingested, and ingestion of lead that has settled onto surfaces is the main way children are exposed
14 to lead that was originally released in the air; and

15 Whereas once in the body, lead is rapidly absorbed into the bloodstream, resulting in a broad
16 range of health effects, leading public health officials to conclude that there is no safe level of ex-
17 posure to lead; and

18 Whereas children are especially susceptible to the toxic effects of lead, and exposure to lead can
19 result in irreversible brain damage and reduce a person's cognitive function; and

20 Whereas exposure to low levels of lead early in life has been linked to effects on a person's in-
21 telligence quotient, learning, memory and behavior; and

22 Whereas lead has been successfully removed from many consumer goods, including household
23 paint and toys; and

24 Whereas the Environmental Protection Agency adopted a successful program that phased lead
25 out of automobile gasoline nationwide in 1996, while avgas remains a public health threat due to its
26 high lead content and toxic air emissions; and

27 Whereas lead content in avgas is regulated at the federal level and all fuels for air transporta-
28 tion must be certified as safe by the Federal Aviation Administration; and

29 Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration, together with the Environmental Protection
30 Agency, has developed a goal to identify a viable unleaded avgas by 2018, which will ultimately

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 eliminate lead emissions from piston engine aircraft; now, therefore,

2 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

3 (1) We, the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, support the Federal Aviation Administration's
4 initiative to certify safe unleaded aviation fuel for piston engine aircraft and encourage the Federal
5 Aviation Administration and the United States Environmental Protection Agency to prioritize the
6 development and certification of unleaded aviation fuel in advance of 2018.

7 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Admin-
8 istration, to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and to each
9 member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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