RE: SB 115

Environment and Natural Resources Committee Chair and Members:

I respectfully request that you do NOT enact SB 115 at this time.

I am a Washington resident, a member of the Oregon Pilots Association, and a frequent patron of Oregon's aviation facilities.

Our general aviation community welcomes the advent of newly developed unleaded aviation fuels. The FAA edict has kept the research & development effort on track to perfect such a fuel by Jan. 1, 2022. However, there is no assurance of when this new product will be in the distribution system or when individual airports will be retrofitted to dispense this fuel.

Enacting this mandate now would be premature and does not address the critical consideration of when this new aviation fuel will actually become WIDELY AVAILABLE in the Pacific Northwest. The appropriate time to take such action will be when unleaded Avgas is not only in the producers' catalogs but is GENERALLY AVAILABLE to the public. At that unknown future time the sale and use of leaded fuel will become an OPTION and the use of the new alternative fuel should be encouraged and underwritten by carefully thought out policy.

Please defer legislative action on SB 115 until such a future time as the Federal unleaded aviation fuel R&D project is complete and the fuel is certified for aviation use and in WIDESPREAD general distribution to the public.

Thank your for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jim Newell White Salmon, Washington