

Representative Lewis,

My name is Tod Coombs, I am a Flight Department Manager/Chief Pilot for a Corporate Flight Department based at Aurora.

I want to thank you for your support of the airport, and the businesses that are based here. Your support of the airport and the runway expansion is greatly appreciated by everyone at Aurora airport.

Thank-you for sponsoring the Bill that will help to expand and grow that Aurora airport to its true potential.

Due to our aircraft size and performance requirements, it is vital that the runway expansion happen in the near future. We are performance restricted due to the current length of the runway. With the planned future purchase of a larger aircraft for business interests, it is imperative that the runway length be expanded. We currently own two hangers for our corporate aircraft, and are tentatively going to purchase land and build a third hanger. We are talking about investing several million dollars in the project, which will help to provide jobs for local companies.

This is all based on the outcome of the bill you are sponsoring getting approved in Salem. Without the runway expansion, we will not be investing anything at Aurora, and will have to look at other airports to meet our needs. We do not want to leave Aurora, but may have to if the runway expansion does not get approved.

I understand that there are people against any expansion at the airport, that is normal around most airports. There is always someone that hates airplanes for any and all reasons that they can think of, real or imagined. The people that are against the airport are folks that just do not look at the big picture, or, have personal or political self interests in mind.

I ask you and other representatives to visit Aurora Airport to see the true value of the airport, and, the importance of the businesses that are base here. Aurora airport is an economic engine that brings in millions of dollars annually to the county, and the local communities.

Please keep up the very valued support, we all appreciate it and Thank-you!

Tod Coombs