



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Aviation

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To: Co-Chairs Beyer and McLain
Members of the Joint Transportation Committee

From: Betty Stansbury, Director – ODA

Date: February 8, 2021

Re: HB 3055

HB 3055 contains proposed revisions to state law affecting trains, planes, and automobiles. Aviation related revisions include a prohibition on open carry of weapons in the terminals of commercial service airports, a technical correction related to vending machines at the Medford Airport, and elimination of the sunset provision on aviation fuel taxes.

The aviation fuel tax section of HB 3055 is identical to HB 2034 (which is a stand-alone bill for the aviation fuel tax, rather than part of a package bill). The Department of Aviation has previously submitted both written and oral testimony on HB 2034, and rather than submitting it again for HB 3055, would ask the committee to refer to the testimony for HB 2034 for details on how the money has been spend over the last five years.

The revenues from the aviation fuel tax has helped fund **109 projects at 49 airports** in the past four years, and with the award of an **additional 26 grants last week**, will have helped fund 135 projects. Most of these grants helped the airports with their local matching share on federally funded projects. And with a federal grant program that provides up to 90% of the cost of the project, **these grants help turn ‘a dime into a dollar’**.

Oregon’s 97 public use **airports have no other source of state funding to help with the local match**. If you have not already done so, I hope you will look at the report I submitted with the February 2nd committee meeting, and conclude that this program is worth keeping.

*Oregon Department of Aviation’s mission is to provide infrastructure, financial resources,
and expertise to ensure a safe and efficient air transportation system*