

ANDREA VALDERRAMA  
REPRESENTATIVE  
HOUSE DISTRICT 47

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April 4, 2023

Joint Committee on Transportation  
Oregon Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Vice-Chairs Boquist and Boshart Davis, and members of the Committee,

I am pleased to submit testimony in support of HB 2834, preventing the monopolization of public vertiports. Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) is an exciting opportunity for the future of transportation in Oregon. Leveraging under-utilized aerial transportation routes, AAM has the potential to reduce congestion, improve equity of access to transportation infrastructure, promote green energy, boost job growth and economic development, and increase connectivity of our roadways and communities.

As we explore this exciting new technology, it is vital that the State take steps to ensure there is equitable and affordable access to transportation infrastructure. HB 2834 will prevent companies from creating monopolies on the development and use of public vertiports—the infrastructure needed for take-off, landing and charging of the AAM vehicles. Without these protections, vertiport owners and operators could decide that they only want to operate in wealthy suburbs, downtown, or at airports where they can charge the highest price per-ticket, preventing communities like mine from accessing this transportation option. This bill puts minimal sideboards in place on local jurisdictions, guaranteeing that they retain the tools needed to ensure AAM transportation opportunities can be made available to Oregonians from all communities, including rural and underserved.

On behalf of my constituents, I urge the committee to support HB 2834, ensuring equitable and affordable access to AAM transportation opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script that appears to read "Andrea Valderrama".

Andrea Valderrama  
Representative, House District 47