



Oregon Aviation Industries



April 17, 2023

To: Co-Chairs Representative Susan McLain and Senator Chris Gorsek
Members of the Oregon Joint Committee on Transportation

This letter is in support of HB 3257 – Electric Aviation Task Force

- Just as with ground transportation, aircraft are on a path to electrification – for the same reason: to reduce transportation’s contribution to global climate change.
- OTC, ODOT, OTF, and the TEINA study have been analyzing the need for electric vehicle charging infrastructure for two years. **But** no investigation has yet been made into the infrastructure required for electric aircraft in Oregon.
- Although a few years behind road vehicles, the development of electric aircraft propulsion systems is accelerating at a very rapid pace – with hundreds of global companies spending billions on the development of carbon-free electric aviation vehicles and systems.
- Transportation system planners in neighboring states have been preparing for the electrification of aviation – with Washington State well ahead, having started that process with legislation in 2018 and a [feasibility study](#) published in 2020.
- In addition to climate benefits, Electric, Hydrogen fuel cell electric and Hybrid propulsion systems will significantly lower aircraft operating costs.
- The lower operating costs of electric aircraft present an opportunity for Oregon to develop an affordable network of intra-state and regional air transportation – making possible rapid, environmentally safe, and inexpensive links around the state.
- To take advantage of this opportunity, Oregon needs to catch up on planning for airport improvements and related infrastructure, such as charging stations, and possible solar generation, needed to support the advanced new electric powered aircraft.
- Oregon Aviation Industries supports and encourages HB 3257 to receive a positive vote by your committee and move on to a floor vote so that Oregon will be prepared for the future.

Respectfully,

Gale 'Jake' Jacobs
Executive Director
Oregon Aviation Industries