To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Public Safety Subcommittee

Re: Department of State Police Port Security Grant

Representative Stark: "On June 20th, the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of State Police to the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the amount of up to $700,000 to purchase an airplane.

FEMA has announced the availability of $100,000,000 in Port Security Grant funds. Grants through this program are available to various government agencies, including state governments, and are intended to support activities such as enhancing maritime domain awareness or conducting training and exercises. The State Police would use this grant funding to purchase an airplane, to replace one of four aircraft in OSP's aircraft program. Aircraft are primarily used by OSP for Fish and Wildlife surveillance and law enforcement, but the agency supports a maritime security plan that includes the Columbia River, Hells Canyon on the Snake River, and the south coast to Florence. Oregon has nine ports and four dams on the Columbia River and three dams on the Snake River, all of which are routinely monitored from the air during regular patrol flights.

The grant requires a 25% cash or in-kind match, which OSP would provide through its existing budget. Grant awards will be announced before October 1st, 2017, and if successful, the agency may return to the Legislature to seek additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval."