

Submitter: Robin Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB812

ORS 837.385 currently prohibits the enactment of local laws that regulate the use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), except as expressly authorized by state statute. SB 812 proposes an exemption to that prohibition, allowing local governments to enact ordinances that could negatively impact the use of UAS by hobbyists and commercial operators alike. It is my understanding that one of the original purposes for including ORS 837.385 in state law regulating UAS was to prevent the proliferation of multiple, confusing and potentially conflicting local laws that UAS users would be required to comply with across the state. The brief summary of SB 812 provides no information on the reasoning behind or justification for this proposed change in state law. Without further details on the perceived objectives of SB 812, it is not possible to thoroughly evaluate the real impacts of this legislative proposal. For example, while SB 812 could allow for prohibitions on taking off or landing UAS in local parks, it appears that flying over those parks, while following other state and federal regulations, would still be allowed. The use of UAS is already more than adequately regulated by state and federal law. I see no useful purpose for SB 812 and I am opposed to it.