

Submitter: Sharla Moffett
On Behalf Of: Oregon Business and Industry
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2834

April 6, 2023

TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation

FR: Sharla Moffett, Oregon Business & Industry

RE: HB 2834

Oregon Business & Industry (OBI) is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

OBI opposes HB 2834 as it is currently drafted. Advanced air mobility (AAM) systems in development have the potential to expand transportation options dramatically. We acknowledge that this bill is an attempt to maximize the potential of this emerging sector. However, as drafted, the bill could create unintended consequences.

The prohibition on exclusive development or control of vertiports is generally beneficial. However, we are concerned that there are circumstances in which it is appropriate to limit AAM operations at vertiports to one or two operators, such as a hospital or medical supply facility. Exclusive use may be appropriate for certain types of AAM infrastructure and establishing limitations on exclusive development or control of vertiports could negatively impact the development of this emerging technology. Prohibiting exclusive use on private property could also impede this developing sector.

For these reasons, we urge the committee not to apply overly prescriptive language prohibiting exclusive use that could result in unintended consequences.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.