



Joint Committee on Transportation  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject:** LOC supports HB 2153 – Strengthening Airport Grant Funding for Oregon’s Aviation Infrastructure

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the League of Oregon Cities, representing Oregon’s 241 cities, 31 of which manage municipal airports across the state, I am writing to express our strong support for HB 2153. This critical legislation will enhance a stable funding mechanism for airport infrastructure, ensuring continued investment in Oregon’s aviation system.

Our member cities and the respective airports rely on state-administered grant programs to maintain and improve essential aviation infrastructure, including runway rehabilitation, lighting upgrades, safety enhancements, and terminal improvements. These projects support aviation operations and drive economic development, emergency response capabilities, and community connectivity.

HB 2153 is essential for:

- **Ensuring Long-Term Sustainability** – Increased and consistent funding will allow airports to plan and complete necessary improvements that enhance safety and efficiency.
- **Supporting Economic Growth** – Well-maintained airports contribute to local economies by facilitating business travel, tourism, and freight transport.
- **Enhancing Public Safety & Emergency Response** – Airports serve as critical hubs for disaster relief, wildfire response, medical evacuations, and law enforcement operations.
- **Maximizing Federal Funding Opportunities** – State funding support helps leverage federal grants, maximizing Oregon’s aviation infrastructure investment.

We urge your support of HB 2153 to sustain and expand Oregon’s airport network, which is vital to the state’s transportation system and economic prosperity. Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss how this legislation will benefit Oregon communities.

Sincerely,

Jim McCauley