



03/02/2025

Support for House Bill 2153

I am writing to share our support from the Port of Tillamook Bay for HB 2153. The Port operates Tillamook Municipal Airport, a general aviation airport, and we sell both Av Gas and Jet A fuels. We support local and transient pilots, as well as LifeFlight, US Coast Guard, and other response agencies.

COAR grants that have been offered through the Oregon Department of Aviation have helped Tillamook Airport maintain required safety and assist in our growth. We have been the recipient of multiple grants, some associated with projects that wouldn't have happened without the COAR grant funding, including match to FAA funded projects.

Recently, we were awarded a COAR grant that we used to match CDS funding (Congressionally Directed Spending) for the AWOS (weather reporting system) at our airport that was too old to get parts for. Another COAR grant we received was for economic development/planning to assist in growing our Airport Business Park, which included additional hangar space and workspace for a Port tenant (Aerostar, formerly Near Space Corp.) who are a designated test site for UAS operations through the FAA.

COAR funding is critical for smaller, rural airports that struggle with matching project funds, especially as prices have increased so dramatically over the past years.

I also sit on the grant review committee, having to process through applications for funding for great projects, knowing that funding will not be available for all projects.

Please join me in supporting this House Bill 2153.

Regards,



Michele Bradley
General Manager