

Dear Senator Jonson, Representative Gomberg, and Committee members:

I am writing today in favor of HB 2075, the bill that will increase Aircraft Fuel Taxes.

While I am sad to hear that the tax on jet fuel has been whittled down to 2 cents from 4 cents, considering that my small flight training business pays far more tax on for 100 LL, something is better than nothing!

The need to increase jet fuel tax, even if only by 2 cents, is critical and I hope you will listen to those of us at small municipal airports and small business would benefit if this bill passes.

I have operated a small flight school at the Creswell Airport for over twenty years. Imagine if you will, trying to grow a business on City owned airport property where there is no adequate sewage or water system, no additional office space to lease, and where the maintenance on the building you do lease has been deferred for so many years that replacement is a far better option. That is the situation here at Creswell and it is the same at small state and municipal airports around the State. Passing HB 2075 is a critical step in helping change this situation.

Of course, no one is ever happy about increasing taxes but the disparity between the current tax rate on Jet fuel and 100LL is unacceptable. As an example, small Jets and other turbine powered aircraft routinely takeoff and land here at Creswell Airport. These larger aircraft impact the runways and taxiways and use the facilities far more than light aircraft, yet they pay far less for fuel tax and therefore for the upkeep of our airport than small piston powered general aviation aircraft do. With the passage of this bill, the City of Creswell can apply for Financial Aid to Municipalities grants to help pay for the sewer and water systems they desperately need—that in turn will directly help my business grow and prosper.

Thank you for your time and for a vote to help Oregon aviation prosper.

Respectfully,

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