



March 5, 2014

The Honorable Frank Chopp
Speaker
Washington State House of Representatives
339C Legislative Building
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Dear Speaker Chopp:

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), Washington Airport Management Association (WAMA), the Washington State Community Airports Association (WSCAA), National Business Aviation Association (NBAA), Pacific Northwest Business Aviation Association (PNBAA), the Washington Pilots Association (WPA), Washington Seaplane Pilots Association (WSPA), Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) and the Washington Aviation Association (WAA), collectively represent the general aviation (GA) interests of 134 public use airports, more than 12,000 aviators and 260 businesses using GA in Washington State.

We write today to offer our support for Senate Bill 5430, which would allocate all of Washington State’s existing aircraft excise tax collections to the operations of the Washington State Aviation Division for its airport aid grant program. More specifically, we respectfully request that the House expeditiously pass SB5430 and forward the bill to the Governor for his consideration. While passage of this bill will have a minimal impact of \$320,000 per year to the state’s general fund, the additional revenues to the WSDOT Aviation airport aid grant program will leverage \$7.5 million of additional Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds for critical airport safety and maintenance projects.

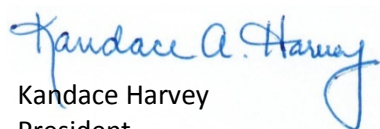
On behalf of our collective members, AOPA, WAMA, WSCAA, NBAA, PNBAA, WPA, WSPA, WPPA and WAA appreciate your support of Senate Bill 5430. **Again, we encourage you to help pass SB5430 out of the House as expeditiously as possible.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

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