

AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION 421 Aviation Way • Frederick, Maryland 21701-4798 Telephone (301) 695-2020 • FAX (301) 695-2375

Phil Boyer President

July 5, 2005

The Honorable Bob Taft Governor 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Taft:

On behalf of the nearly 14,000 Ohio members – of the more than 405,000 nationwide – of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, we commend you for signing HB 66, which includes a reduction of the of the annual aircraft license fee from a flat \$100-per-aircraft fee to a \$15-per-seat fee.

We are extremely pleased that your administration recognized that the 800-percent fee increase implemented several years ago sent the wrong signal to pilots, particularly in the Buckeye State that proudly calls itself the "Birthplace of Aviation." Moreover, we believe this year's action will help to stimulate and increase the funds available to make safety and infrastructure improvements to Ohio's outstanding network of general aviation airports.

Again, our thanks to you and your administration for helping to re-establish Ohio's leadership in general aviation.

cc:

Bill Leavens, AOPA Eastern Regional Representative