



Council-Mayor Government

Jeff Tilton, Mayor

THE CITY OF
Zanesville

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
AIRPORT DIVISION
JAMES A. WITTE

June 11, 2019

Ohio Senate Finance Committee
The Ohio Statehouse
1 Capital Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Written Testimony in Support of the Ohio Aviation Association's amendments to H.B. 166

Dear Members of the Ohio Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of the three amendments the Ohio Aviation Association has placed before your Committee; 1) Increased funding to the Ohio Airport Grant Program from \$5.9 to \$16 Million, 2) the creation of an Air Service Development Grant Fund in the amount of \$15 million, and, lastly, 3) the creation of an Aviation Student Loan Program.

Each of the amendments advances the aviation infrastructure and economic development of the State of Ohio and should be supported, but I wish to share how the Ohio Airport Grant Program has benefitted the Zanesville Municipal Airport.

The crosswind runway pavement at Zanesville Municipal Airport was in poor condition and unfortunately not eligible for Federal funding. Thanks to the Ohio Airport Grant Program we were able to resurface said runway and also apply new paint markings. This will extend the lifetime of the runway for several years. This year the grant program will be funding new runway lighting for the crosswind runway. The old antiquated system has been inoperable for several years, making said runway unusable at night. The improvements the Ohio Airport Grant Program has made possible will not only improve safety but also promote user accessibility and increase economic development.

Thank you for your consideration of these important amendments.

Sincerely,

James A. Witte
Airport Manager