



OHIO
UNIVERSITY
Gordon K. Bush Airport

747 Columbia Road
Albany OH 45710
T: 740.597.2600
F: 740.597.2615
www.ohio.edu/airport

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 Ohio University Airport.

The Gordon K. Bush Ohio University Airport provides safe, reliable and efficient facilities and services for the University's aviation-related initiatives and the citizens and visitors of our community. As the Airport is a vital part of the local, state and national economy and multi-modal transportation network, we strive to maintain and develop the Airport in an environmentally sound manner.

The Obstruction Removal grant we received assists Ohio University with maintaining unobstructed approach corridors and ensures the efficiency and safety of instrument approach procedures.

We are also anticipating approval for the recently submitted application to rehabilitate our Apron area.

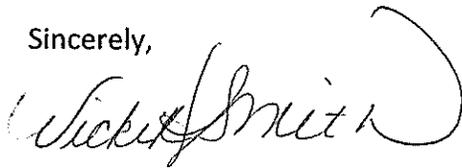
The Ohio University Airport is home to the Department of Aviation flight training program and the Avionics Engineering Center research and development programs. The University offers Associate degrees in Aviation Technology and Bachelor of Science degrees in Aviation Science. The flight program enrolled 162 students in Fall, 2018 and owns 17 aircraft.

The Avionics Engineering Center specializes in research, development and evaluation of electronic navigational communication and surveillance systems. Their research projects cover a range of avionics topics, including advanced flight controls, GPS and Local Area Augmentation Systems, Joint Precision Approach and Landing Systems, Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast, Dual Airborne Laser Scanner, Distance Measuring Equipment, high fidelity signal quality monitoring, as well as field and flight inspections, evaluations, and testing.

Supporting the amendments to H.B. 166 help ensure the future of Aviation for many generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration of these important amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicki Smith", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Vicki Smith
Department Administrator
Ohio University Airport